HAWAIʻI WING HEADQUARTERS
CIVIL AIR PATROL
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AUXILIARY
419 Lele St.
Honolulu, HI 96819

27 March 2026

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 1800 HD1
RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

TESTIMONY TO:
SENATOR DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, CHAIR
SENATOR SENATOR SHARON Y. MORIWAKI, VICE CHAIR
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

BY:
COLONEL DANA MCLAUGHLIN
COMMANDER, HAWAI`I WING, CIVIL AIR PATROL

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on HB1800 HD1 the State Budget

For over 80 years, the Civil Air Patrol ("CAP"), has provided critical services to the State of Hawaiʻi in times of emergencies. The Hawaiʻi Wing has conducted missions including: Search and Rescue (SAR), damage assessments, aerial photographs of impacted areas, alerts and notifications, and transportation of supplies. Our experience is that effective emergency response depends on pre-established coordination — not ad hoc communication during a crisis.

We support the Governor's Budget line item (Sequence 1100-001) establishing a Hawaiʻi State Search and Rescue Coordination Office within the Office of the Governor to evaluate SAR capabilities, develop a statewide framework and mutual aid system, and provide incident-related data. This should be a small office — not a department or agency — and should not own response assets, but focus on coordination.

To preserve county authority, the new office must have clear statutory authority to dispatch mutual aid resources statewide. The proposed $100,000 appropriation is insufficient to establish such an office that must operate 24/7/365 to: respond to county requests for assistance, maintain a database of qualified resources, and dispatch mutual aid assistance across counties. To move Hawaiʻi State off the #8 most missing persons per capita in the nation, we urge the consideration of a $1M annual investment for a small staff.

Hawaiʻi does not lack responders. We lack a neutral statewide coordination function.

Thank you,
Col. Dana McLaughlin
Hawaii Wing Commander
Civil Air Patrol, U.S. Air Force Auxiliary

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

RIKI FUJITANI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Hawai'i School
Facilities Authority

2759 S. KING STREET, ROOM H201
HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96826

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

March 30, 2026
10:00AM
Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 211

House Bill 1800, House Draft 1, Relating to State Budget

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee:

The School Facilities Authority (SFA) **strongly supports** House Bill 1800, House Draft 1, which would adjust and request appropriations for fiscal biennium 2025-2027 funding requirements for operations and capital improvement projects of Executive Branch agencies and programs.

SFA builds modern learning spaces for public schools and workforce housing on public lands by improving government processes to maximize long-term project value and accelerate delivery. Its three primary initiatives are preschool expansion, a new Central Maui school, and workforce housing.

SFA asks the committee to approve the capital improvement project for pre-kindergarten capacity in Governor Josh Green's executive budget, which includes $27,106,000 in general obligation bond funds and $4,894,000 in special funds (Item No. G-17). The House approved this appropriation in House Draft 1.

Additionally, we respectfully request a capital improvement program lump sum appropriation of $19,000,000 for plans, design, and construction for educator workforce housing projects provided that such an appropriation is not prioritized over other capital improvement appropriation requests in Governor Green's executive budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Riki Fujitani
Executive Director

Josh Green, M.D.
Governor

Sylvia Luke
Lt. Governor

James Kunane Tokioka
DBEDT Director

Dane K. Wicker
DBEDT Deputy Director

Walter Thoemmes
Stadium Authority Chair

Michael R. Yadao
Stadium Authority Executive Director

Statement of
MICHAEL R. YADAO
Stadium Authority
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Monday, March 30, 2026
10:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

In consideration of
H.B. 1800, HD1
RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET.

Chair Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki and members of the Committee.

The Stadium Authority respectfully submits testimony in support of HB1800, HD1 Relating to the State Budget**,** specifically the provision appropriating $49,500,000 in Fiscal Year 2027 to increase the Stadium Development Special Fund (SDSF) ceiling**.**

This measure is necessary to allow the Stadium Authority to allot and expend funds previously appropriated in Act 248, Session Laws of Hawai‘i 2022, and authorized by proviso to be deposited into the SDSF. Increasing the ceiling does not create a new program or new spending commitment; rather, it enables the State to fully utilize funds that have already been appropriated for the project’s implementation.

The requested ceiling increase provides the Authority with essential financial flexibility to support the continued progress of the New Aloha Stadium Entertainment District (NASED) project. As the project transitions from planning and site preparation into active development, expenditures must be timed with construction activities, infrastructure coordination, professional services, and project oversight requirements. The SDSF serves as the primary financial mechanism that allows the Authority to manage these obligations responsibly and efficiently.

Without this adjustment, previously authorized funds cannot be deployed when needed, potentially causing delays, contract complications, and increased project costs. Allowing

the Stadium Authority to access these funds ensures continuity of work, maintains project momentum, and protects the State's investment.

HB1800, HD1 supports sound fiscal management by enabling the State to carry out an already-approved project while maintaining proper accounting and oversight. The measure will help ensure that the NASED project proceeds in a timely and responsible manner and continues moving toward delivering a long-term community asset for residents and future generations.

For these reasons, the Stadium Authority respectfully urges the Committee to pass HB1800, HD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony and for your continued support of this important statewide project.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

YUUKO ARIKAWA-CROSS
DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAIʻI
Executive Office on Early Learning
Keʻena Hoʻokele Hoʻonaʻauao Pae Kamaliʻi o Hawaiʻi Mokuʻāina
2759 South King Street, Room C6
HONOLULU, HAWAIʻI 96826

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Yuuko Arikawa-Cross, Director
Executive Office on Early Learning

SUBJECT: Testimony on H.B. No. 1800, H.D. 1 – RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET
Committee: WAM
Date: Monday, March 30, 2026
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Location: Conference Room 211

Executive Office on Early Learning's Position: **SUPPORT**

The Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL) offers the following comments in support of H.B. No. 1800, H.D. 1 and respectfully requests your consideration of the following budget requests.

EOEL is requesting three (3.00) permanent general fund positions to support the growing workload and responsibilities of the office in coordinating Hawaiʻi's statewide early learning system. This request is budget-neutral, as funding for the positions will be covered through internal transfers from other current expenses to personal services. The House Draft contains these positions, and we respectfully request that Ways and Means include them in the Senate Draft as well.

<u>2.00 FTE – Program Specialist IV</u>

These positions will sustain and advance statewide initiatives that support the early learning system. They will ensure continuity of work initiated through Preschool Development Grant – Birth to Five (PDG B-5) activities, support future grant applications, and build capacity to implement the updated Hawaiʻi Early Childhood State Plan.

The positions will support implementation of the updated Early Childhood State Plan by monitoring progress, facilitating data collection, and reporting on statewide outcomes

advancing the plan's goals over the next five years. They will also assist with future revisions to the plan.

The positions will also execute current PDG B-5 grant activities. In addition, they will continue and expand the family support, outreach, and community-building efforts initiated through prior PDG B-5 grants, helping connect more families to early learning opportunities and system resources.

1.00 FTE – Evaluation Specialist II

The Evaluation Specialist will provide leadership, expertise, planning, and coordination to evaluate the effectiveness of statewide early learning programs and assess the extent to which the objectives of the early learning system are being achieved. The position will also help the office identify needs, develop project proposals, and provide data and analysis for a variety of audiences, including decision-makers.

This position will expand EOEL's capacity to meet its statutory responsibilities for data, program evaluation, and policy recommendations as outlined in section 302L-1.5(d), HRS.

EOEL strongly supports these budget requests, which will strengthen statewide coordination, improve data-informed decision-making, advance educational equity, and improve access to high-quality early learning for keiki.

We appreciate the Legislature's ongoing investment and shared commitment to strengthening Hawai'i's early learning system for our youngest keiki and their 'ohana. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony, and we respectfully request your support of these budget requests.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

KEITH T. HAYASHI
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAI`I
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
KA ʻOIHANA HOʻONAʻAUAO
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAI`I 96804

Date: 03/30/2026
Time: 10:00 AM
Location: CR 211 & Videoconference
Committee: WAM

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB1800, HD1, RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET.

Purpose of Bill: Adjusts and requests appropriations for fiscal biennium 20252027 funding requirements for operations and capital improvement projects of Executive Branch agencies and programs. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports HB 1800, HD 1 with concerns.

First off, the Department is grateful for the hard work of our school leaders, facilities crews, and staff during the recent heavy rains and floods. Providing and maintaining safe environments for our students and staff is of the utmost importance. The Department continues to fully assess damage, make repairs, and support schools as they resume operations.

We recognize that the storm's effects will affect upcoming budget discussions. A number of Department schools have been affected. The most common issues include roof leaks and water intrusion into classrooms, followed by downed trees, debris and localized flooding. While many campuses experienced minor to moderate impacts, some schools report more extensive damage.

<u>Operating Budget:</u>
With regard to HB 1800, HD 1, the Department appreciates that its general fund operating budget is no longer in the negative as initially proposed by the FY 2027 Supplemental Budget. The House did not concur with the $30 million reduction in preventative maintenance. This reduction was the cause for the operating budget being in the negative. In addition, the House included $5,065,646 for general fund requests.

HB 1800, HD 1 also includes $1 placeholders meant for further discussion. These placeholders are for requests related to health and safety or critical infrastructure. Details for these requests and impact statements were previously submitted to Committee staff.

The table below summarizes the $1 general fund placeholders and the amount of funding requested for each item, totaling $13,745,908 for FY 2027, along with impact statements. The Department respectfully seeks support for these:

Request	EDN	SEQ#	HB1800 HD1 $ Amount	Dept. Request $ Amount	Impact Statement
ADD FUNDS FOR REFUSE DISPOSAL	EDN400	1100-001	$1	$5,000,000	Failure to adequately fund these contracts will result in an accumulation of trash at our schools which will have numerous health, safety and public perception issues.
ADD FUNDS FOR R&M AIR CONDITIONING MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS	EDN400	1101-001	$1	$4,250,000	If denied, our existing air conditioning systems will not be maintained and will begin failing causing classroom temperatures to rise, directly impacting student learning environments.
ADD FUNDS FOR IT SOFTWARE AND PROGRAM SUPPORT FOR R&M AND CIP PROJECTS	EDN400	1103-001	$1	$4,250,000	If funding to maintain the current Information Technology (IT) systems and support for Repair & Maintenance (R&M) and Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) is not provided, the Department may lose the ability to monitor projects and access data in a timely manner to respond to facilities project inquiries and provide justification for funding which will ultimately delay the completion of needed facility improvements.
ADD FUNDS FOR HAZARDOUS MATERIAL (HAZMAT) DISPOSAL	EDN400	1102-001	$1	$100,000	The accumulation of electronic smoking devices (ESD) on school campuses have caused a hazardous material (HAZMAT) situation and must be promptly disposed of in accordance with State of Hawaii Department of Health guidance to avoid potential fines. Delayed removal of these hazardous materials creates a health and safety risk for students and staff at schools across the state.
ADD FUNDS FOR ONGOING IMPLEMENTATION OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAM	EDN100	1100-001	$1	$100,000	If this request is denied, it would hinder the implementation of this critical preventive program that protects students from sexual violence. Both middle and high school Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) data in 2023 indicate an upward trend in sexual violence experiences (High School - currently at 11% with a 2% increase from 2021, Middle School - currently at 7.8%

					with a 1.5% increase from 2021).
ADD 1.00 PERM FTE AND FUNDS FOR INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT PROGRAM	EDN400	1104-001	$1	$45,908	The U.S. EPA recommends that all school districts implement a policy addressing the safest possible use of pesticides and the implementation of a coordinated Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program as part of a long-term and sustainable approach to mitigating pests and their impacts on children's health. IPM is a legal requirement for schools in several states including California, Texas, New Jersey and Illinois. Hawaii Public Schools currently have no functional IPM program. IPM uses preventive measures to reduce the number of pests, lower pesticide use, mitigate asthma triggers, improve learning environments, and can save schools money by decreasing pest control costs. Training outreach to schools enables schools to engage in sustaining healthier environments.
TOTAL			$6	$13,745,908	

The measure also includes an amended appropriation for regional kitchens of 26.00 permanent FTE and $1,065,640 in general funds for FY 2027 that the Department requested (original request was for 26.00 perm FTE and $1,640,917). The Department also respectfully asks for support for this request at the level contained in HB 1800, HD 1.

Regarding the $30 million restored for preventive maintenance, the Department appreciates the support to fund this need with general funds. If the financial plan cannot accommodate the $30 million in sustained support in the operating budget, the Department asks for $15 million in the Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) budget for preventative maintenance and $14,811,548 to fund our other general fund requests in the operating budget (full funding for the $1 placeholders and the amended funding for the regional kitchen).

Additionally, HB 1800, HD 1 includes appropriations for a few positions, trade-off/transfers, and revolving fund ceiling increases. The Department also respectfully requests support for these.

Green Fee Operating Request:

HB 1800, HD 1 also includes $4 million in general funds for FY 2027 for brush / vegetation management in order to reduce wildfire risk, improve drainage, and maintain defensible space around the Department's schools. This request was recommended by the Green Fee Advisory Council and submitted via a Governor's Message. Act 96, SLH 2025 established the State's climate impact fee, known as the "Green Fee," that provides dedicated funding for environmental and infrastructure initiatives. The Department respectfully requests support for this request at the level contained in HB 1800, HD 1.

Potential Reductions to the Operating Budget:

If the Committee is considering potential budget reductions to the operating budget due to funding needs for storm recovery efforts, Hawaii State Board of Education (Board) Policy 400-4 requires that reductions to the Department's budget are specified as aggregate or lump sum amounts.

In addition, the principles of the policy need to be followed to ensure: (1) that all students will continue to receive equal opportunities for all educational programs or services; (2) that the well-being of students are protected; and (3) that all judicially- and legally-mandated programs and services are preserved.

Instead of implementing reductions, the Department respectfully asks the Committee to keep the Department's budget whole. This intact budget is necessary to provide the resources required for the Department to address its own storm-related needs, and thereby helping to ensure the continued protection and well-being of our students.

Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Budget:

As with the operating budget, the Department supports HB 1800, HD 1 with concerns and would appreciate CIP funding in the amounts approved by the Board.

The Department's CIP request is significant because the Department manages over 21.5 million square feet of K-12 education facilities with an average age over 65 years across 258 sites statewide. To improve the execution of the Department's CIP and meet the needs of students across all islands in the most effective and expedient manner, the Department has shifted to a proactive, risk-assessment based approach to address its facilities and infrastructure needs requirements. Most of our CIP budget is now organized into categories or "lump-sum buckets". These lump-sum buckets allow the Department to manage and execute projects with greater efficiency and flexibility to meet the growing education needs of schools, staff and students while also satisfying the requirements of federal or legal mandates. Aside from critical infrastructure and as part of a targeted modernization initiative, the Department has also requested two line items to support the regional kitchen project.

This CIP budget is the Department's renewed effort to manage a more fiscally responsible, targeted and sustainable strategy by making a clear distinction between "needs" and "wants" to address the facility and infrastructure requirements of a constantly evolving and dynamic public education system.

The table below summarizes the Department's FY 2027 Supplemental CIP budget proposal. The means of financing (i.e. source of funds) is general obligation bond funds (MOF C) unless otherwise noted.

Department of Education Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Supplemental Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 (FY 2027)				
Costs in Thousands, EDN 100, MOF C (general obligation bond funds, unless noted otherwise)				
Prioritized List of CIP Projects			**FY 2027**	**FY 2027**
			Act 250/ SLH25	**Add'l Request**
School	**Project**	**Sub category**	**Appropriated**	**Project cost**
DEFERRED MAINTENANCE PROGRAM			**$0**	**$200,000**
FEDERAL GRANTS			**$150,000**	**$0**
Hickam Elementary School	Campus Improvements (qualifies for federal $)		$16,500	

		(MOF P)	$66,000	
Lehua Elementary School	Campus Improvements (qualifies for federal $)		$13,500	
		(MOF P)	$54,000	
HEALTH & SAFETY			**$0**	**$50,000**
PLANNING, DESIGN AND LAND ACQUISITION			**$0**	**$6,000**
Various Schools, Statewide	Planning, Design, Site Studies, Land Acquisition	Planning		$2,000
Various Schools, Statewide	Facility Asset Management Update, Statewide	Planning		$4,000
CAPACITY			**$0**	**$288,308**
East Kapolei Elementary School	New School			$142,028
	(partial use of Fair Share funds)	(MOF X)		$3,972
King Kamehameha III Elementary School	Replacement School	New School		$141,000
Koa Ridge Elementary School	New School (start design w/ Fair Share funds)	(MOF X)		$1,308
TEMPORARY FACILITIES			**$0**	**$3,000**
Keonepoko Elementary School	Additional Portables with Covered Walkways	Kaiapuni Program		$3,000
INSTRUCTIONAL			**$0**	**$20,000**
Waialua High & Intermediate School	New Music Building	Instructional		$20,000
SUPPORT FACILITIES			**$0**	**$68,200**
Kohala High School	Gymnasium	Support		$39,000
Helemano Elementary School	Administration/Library	Support		$25,500
Nanakuli High & Intermediate School	Baseball Field Improvements	Support		$3,700
COMPLIANCE			**$0**	**$60,950**
Various Schools, Statewide	ADA Improvements	ADA		$2,600
Various Schools, Statewide	Gender Equity Improvements	Gender Equity		$2,250
Jarrett Middle School	ADA Improvements (OCR)	ADA		$3,800
Leilehua High School	ADA Improvements (CTE)	ADA		$4,000
Waiakea High School	Girls Athletic Locker Room	Gender Equity		$14,100
Waipahu High School	ADA Improvements (CTE)	ADA		$800
Castle High School	Softball Field Improvements	Gender Equity		$6,300
Maui High School	Softball Stadium Improvements	Gender Equity		$7,300
Kaimuki High School	Softball Field Improvements	Gender Equity		$3,100
Leilehua High School	Girls Athletic Locker Room	Gender Equity		$7,000
Hana High & Elementary School	Girls Athletic Locker Room	Gender Equity		$4,800
Waianae High School	Softball Field Improvements	Gender Equity		$4,000
Honokaa High & Intermediate School	Girls Athletic Locker Room	Gender Equity		$900
PROJECT COMPLETION			**$0**	**$50,000**
Various Schools, Statewide	Project Contingencies			$35,000

Various Schools, Statewide	Construction Management Services			$13,000
Various Schools, Statewide	Furniture and Equipment			$2,000
TELECOMMUNICATION INFRASTRUCTURE			**$0**	**$7,900**
Baldwin High School	Telecommunication Upgrades			$1,940
Fern Elementary School	Telecommunication Upgrades			$810
Kalihi Waena Elementary School	Telecommunication Upgrades			$765
Pauoa Elementary School	Telecommunication Upgrades			$670
Pomaikai Elementary School	Telecommunication Upgrades			$815
Koloa Elementary School	Telecommunication Upgrades			$1,060
Wilcox Elementary School	Telecommunication Upgrades			$590
Kalaheo Elementary School	Telecommunication Upgrades			$1,250
LINE ITEMS			**$16,500**	**$30,000**
Various Schools, Statewide	Expansion of Regional Kitchens, Statewide		$16,500	
Various Schools, Leilehua-Mililani-Waialua Complex Area	Kitchen Retrofits to Support the Regional Kitchen			$30,000
		Subtotal MOF C	**$46,500**	**$779,078**
		Subtotal MOF P	**$120,000**	
		Subtotal MOF X		**$5,280**
		Total FY 2027 Budget (Act 250/SLH2025 and Additional Request)	**$166,500**	**$784,358**
		Total Supplemental Budget =	**$950,858**	

Conclusion:

Investment in public education stands at a critical crossroad during periods of economic downturns and uncertainty. K-12 education, unlike other critical government services, is the state's investment in its future. What may be considered short-term divestments in education — one, two, or even three years — to address budget constraints, have long-term impacts on a generation of students. These young people graduate high school and mature into adults who will make decisions about whether they will live in Hawaii and how they will contribute to our community and economic future.

The Department, together with families and communities, envisions every graduate as a lifelong learner who is globally competitive and locally committed. Graduates will:

- Apply academic knowledge and an innovative mindset to think critically, communicate effectively, and create impactful contributions in the pursuit of excellence.
- Be resilient and adaptable to an ever-changing world. Graduates will take initiative in charting their next steps to advance their life journey - such as in postsecondary education, career, enterprise, service or exploration.
- Cultivate well-being and compassion, care for self and others, and build deep roots in Hawaii to fulfill their kuleana and strengthen their community.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and for your continued support of public education.

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAIʻI SYSTEM
ʻŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAIʻI

Legislative Testimony
Hōʻike Manaʻo I Mua O Ka ʻAhaʻōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
March 30, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.
By
Luis P. Salaveria
Vice President for Budget and Finance/Chief Financial Officer
University of Hawaiʻi System

HB 1800 HD1 – RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony today. The University of Hawaiʻi (UH) **supports** HB 1800 HD1, Relating to the State Budget. This measure is this year's "budget bill" and adjusts and requests appropriations for fiscal biennium 2025-2027 funding requirements for operations and capital improvement projects of Executive Branch agencies and programs.

The University recognizes the economic uncertainty facing the state and looks forward to continuing to work with the Legislature throughout this session.

The following table provides the items included in UH's Board of Regent approved request and the items included in the HD1 of the budget. The HD1 includes items from both Governor's Message (GM) 2 and 5. All requests are for general funds:

Category	BOR $$$	HD1 $$$
Healthcare Initiative	$3,724,600	
Mānoa Athletics	$15,080,000	
Aloha Safe Homes (GM2)		$300,000
Evaluate sea-level rise (GM2)		$500,000
Name, Image, and Likeness (GM5)		$5,000,000
Support for UH Cancer Center (GM5)		$5,000,000
Support American Sign Language Programs		$140,000
Information Technology Services		$150,000
Community Resilience Hubs Pilot (System)		$500,000
Grand Total	**$18,804,600**	**$11,590,000**

The following table lists the capital improvement projects requested in the Governor's budget request. All requests are for additional General Obligation (GO) funding:

Description	Board FY27	Gov FY27	HD1 FY27
Mānoa Student Housing	$59,250,000		$28,500,000
System Renew, Improve, and Modernize (RIM)	$100,000,000	$65,000,000	$80,000,000
Hilo RIM	$30,000,000	$9,500,000	$9,500,000
Community Colleges Capital Renewal & Deferred Maintenance	$30,725,000	$20,000,000	$20,000,000
West Oʻahu RIM	$5,000,000	$3,000,000	$3,000,000
Mānoa Athletics Facilities	$11,000,000	$7,300,000	$11,000,000
Community Colleges Minor CIP	$30,125,000	$20,000,000	$20,000,000
Waikīkī Aquarium	$10,000,000	$7,000,000	
Kapiʻolani CC Renovations for Health Program	$4,000,000		$4,000,000
Maui College Vocational Training Center Modernization	$3,000,000		
Hilo Student Housing		$5,500,000	
Maui College - Hale Modernization			$9,000,000
Waialeʻe Livestock Research Station Improvements (CTAHR)			$3,500,000
Total	**$283,100,000**	**$137,300,000**	**$188,500,000**

We appreciate the tremendous effort put forth by the Committee members and staff to craft a fiscally responsible budget to provide the needs of the people of Hawaiʻi in these uncertain times.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

ELAINE YAMISHITA
CHAIRPERSON

STATE OF HAWAIʻI
Early Learning Board
2759 South King Street, Room C6
HONOLULU, HAWAIʻI 96826

March 27, 2026

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Moriwaki, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Elaine Yamashita, Chair
Early Learning Board

Re: HB1800HD1 support
March 30, 2026, 10 a.m. Ways and Means Committee hearing

Aloha Honorable Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Moriwaki, and members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee:

The Early Learning Board (ELB) formulates statewide policy relating to early learning, as well as directing the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL).

ELB supports HB1800HD1, which includes the Executive Office on Early Learning's request for 3.00 permanent general fund position counts that are budget neutral to uphold its ongoing and increasing responsibilities. This measure aligns with the legislative priorities passed by the board which support the Hawaiʻi Early Childhood State Plan (2025-2030). The board strongly supports EOEL's detailed testimony for these positions.

It's an exciting time for early learning in the state and these positions as described in the EOEL testimony will support the implementation of the Early Childhood State Plan beyond 2030.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify. The Early Learning Board appreciates the continued support of our youngest keiki and their ʻohana.

Sincerely,

Elaine Yamashita
Early Learning Board Chair
elb@eoel.hawaii.gov

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

JADE T. BUTAY
DIRECTOR

WILLIAM G. KUNSTMAN
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAIʻI
KA MOKUʻĀINA O HAWAIʻI
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
KA ʻOIHANA PONO LIMAHANA

March 30, 2026

To: The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair,
The Honorable Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair, and
Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Date: Monday, March 30, 2026
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Place: Conference Room 211, State Capitol

From: Jade T. Butay, Director
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)

Re: H.B. 1800 HD1 RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

The **DLIR strongly supports** the HD1 of HB1800, and notes that the Department does not have significant requests in the Governor's Executive Supplemental Budget request. The DLIR has two minor adjustments, one involving a trade-off and another involving a transfer to align with the intent of Act 302 (SLH, 2025), which transferred the State Fire Council and State Fire Marshal to the Department of Law Enforcement (DLE).

Transfer of Funds — $318,000
Pursuant to Act 302, DLIR requests the transfer of $118,000 in A funds and $200,000 in B funds to DLE's Office of State Fire Marshal (LAW822), consisting of:

- $118,000 A for contract services ($106,000) and travel ($12,000), and
- $200,000 B for the Reduced Ignition Propensity Cigarette Program (RIPC).

HD1: DLIR supports the House adjustment to transfer the funds for the Office of the State Fire Marshall and RIPC funds to LAW822.

Trade-Off Within DLIR — $134,350
DLIR requests the transfer of $134,350 from the Personal Services category to the Other Current Expenses category to support current and ongoing operational needs of the Unemployment Insurance Division.

HD1: House concurs with this request.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on these important matters.

Equal Opportunity Employer/Program
Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.
TDD/TTY Dial 711 then ask for (808) 586-8842.

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

COMMISSION MEMBERS

MICHELLE PESCAIA
Chairperson
FAITH KAHALE SAITO
Vice Chair

J. KALAMA CHOCK
RYAN KANAKA'OLE
SAUMALU MATAAFA
BENTON KEALII PANG, Ph.D
KEONI SOUZA

Michael K. Nāho'opi'i
Executive Director

KŪKULU KE EA A KANALOA

KAHOʻOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
KŌMIKINA MĀLAMA KAHOʻOLAWE

811 Kolu Street, Suite 201, Wailuku, HI 96793
Telephone (808) 243-5020 Fax (808) 243-5885
Website: **http://kahoolawe.hawaii.gov**

Testimony of
MICHAEL K. NĀHOʻOPIʻI
Executive Director

Before the Senate Committee on
WAYS AND MEANS

Monday, March 30, 2026
10:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 221

In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1800 HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

House Bill 1800 HD1 adjusts and requests appropriations for fiscal biennium 2025-2027 funding requirements for operations and capital improvements projects for Executive Branch agencies and programs. The Kahoʻolawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) supports this measure.

The Kahoʻolawe Island Reserve Commission respectfully request the addition of Capitol Improvement Project (CIP) funding for its Project A01A: Kahoʻolawe Restoration and Resilience Center, Maui (Phase 2), LNR908 in the amount of $4,250,00 (Planning: $350,000; Design: $3,000,000; Construction: $900,000).

The KIRC has the unique opportunity to build the Kahoʻolawe Restoration and Resilience Center at its base yard property located adjacent to the Kīhei Small Boat Harbor. This project will not only consolidate and provide a single KIRC office on Maui but will also tell the story of Kahoʻolawe's cultural significance, its ecological devastation and the efforts to restore and demonstrate our communities' resiliency to heal the damages of the past. Additionally, this facility will also create a revenue generating venue in the South Kīhei corridor to assist in Maui's economic recovery, generate additional tax revenues and create income opportunities for the KIRC to fund restoration efforts on Kahoʻolawe.

Phase 2 of the project is to develop the detailed drawings and plans necessary to build this project. This includes final construction drawings and specifications, planning and development of exhibits and archive storage, final planning, design for office layout, and final design of the building infrastructure (HVAC, network).

Additionally, this request includes construction efforts to expand the current boathouse to include a larger concrete pad and two additional covered wings for additional boat storage as well as creating a small educational pavilion and restroom facilities adjacent to the current boathouse.

JOSH GREEN, M. D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIAʻĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR
KA HOPE KIAʻĀINA

BRENNA H. HASHIMOTO
DIRECTOR
KA LUNA HOʻOKELE

BRIAN K. FURUTO
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
KA HOPE LUNA HOʻOKELE

STATE OF HAWAIʻI | KA MOKUʻĀINA O HAWAIʻI
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
KA ʻOIHANA HOʻOMŌHALA LIMAHANA
235 S. BERETANIA STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAIʻI 96813-2437

Statement of
BRENNA H. HASHIMOTO
Director, Department of Human Resources Development

Before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Monday, March 30, 2026
10:00AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

In consideration of
HB1800 HD1, RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and the members of the committee:

The purpose of HB1800 HD1 is to adjust and request appropriations for fiscal biennium 2025-2027 funding requirements for operations and capital improvement projects of Executive Branch agencies and programs.

The Department of Human Resources Development (HRD) strongly supports HB1800 HD1 as it relates to our biennium budget requests.

Program ID:	**Priority:**	**FY26**	0.00	$ 0
HRD102	1 of 2	**FY27**	3.00	$306,144
Description of Request *Add 3.00 Positions and Funds for ESD (Employee Staffing Division Recruitment and Outreach).*				

The request to institutionalize the 3.00 ESD FTEs as permanent positions will ensure that the progress made in recruiting efforts is preserved. These positions are currently exempt from civil service, temporary, and funded with ARPA funds that expire in September 2026. The team's focus is to promote and market the State as an employer of choice; engage in targeted outreach and relationship building with schools, colleges, universities, and other sources of talent to develop pathways to State jobs; utilize social media and employment-related social networking tools to actively engage candidates, particularly in hard-to-fill occupations; and, on behalf of all State agencies, organize, coordinate, and participate in in-person recruiting events throughout the state.

The team's accomplishments are substantial, and it is critical to sustain the momentum of its success. This team has enhanced recruitment and outreach capabilities within ESD, enabling the State to meet its workforce needs more effectively. Without this funding and resources, ESD remains constrained in its ability to attract and retain top-tier talent, and the State will revert to facing an annually increasing vacancy rate as occurred from 2015 through 2023 – affecting the State's ability to deliver critical public services effectively.

Program achievements include:

- 116 statewide events, including job fairs, campus outreach, and rapid-hiring events over the last two years
- 12 rapid-hire events resulting in 910 applications and, to date, the hiring of over 134 candidates
- OHHI has resulted in over 8,900 applications processed and 236 positions filled under OHHI
- Reduction in overall vacancy rate from approximately 26.7% to 22%, when excluding newly appropriated positions
- Increased branding and advertising through Consolidated Theatres, TheBus, UH Athletics, shopping malls, and digital platforms (LinkedIn and Meta)
- Created partnerships with UH, U.S. Department of Defense SkillBridge, and community organizations to build career pipelines

Program ID:	**Priority:**	**FY26**	0.00	$ 0
HRD102	2 of 2	**FY27**	2.00	$217,372
Description of Request *Add 2.00 Positions and Funds for PTO (Employee Records and Transactions).*				

The requested 2.00 FTE HRMS Analyst positions are currently temporary, exempt from civil service, and funded with ARPA funds that expire in September 2026.
The PTO team is:

- Working to review legacy processes and provide recommendations to maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of human resources components within HIP, as well as explore other opportunities to integrate systems
- Streamlining processes by reducing redundancy, integrating data, and developing a catalog of standardized reports to support human resources analysis and informed decision-making
- Responsible for auditing hires, separations, reallocations, and other employee transactions, and ensuring the required quality of transactions to maintain compliance with statute, policies, executive orders, and other authoritative guidance
- Serving in a significant role for the EFS and ERP implementations, by collaborating directly with AGS and project consultants to deliver a smooth integration with HRMS, the executive branch's authoritative system of record

There is a need for these positions, as reflected in the 15% increase in transactions from the previous fiscal year. Without these positions, maintaining the centralized, comprehensive human resources information system within the executive branch will remain inefficient, and staff will continue to be inundated with routine tasks. Most importantly, we would jeopardize the timely and accurate processing of employees' pay and benefits, as well as their employment security.

Further, HRD recognizes the Legislature's interest in ensuring streamlined HRD operations to best support line departments. To that end, ESD administered a Recruitment Priorities Survey as part of HRD's data collection efforts to support tracking and analysis of departments' recruitment priorities, needs and related considerations. HRD will meet with individual departments to discuss survey results and develop actionable plans.

HRD appreciates the Legislature's support. We are aware of the challenges ahead and remain committed to work with the Legislature to seek solutions that effectively balance short and long-term priorities.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony. We are available to answer any questions or provide further information as needed.

DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

Ka ʻOihana Hoʻokaʻaʻike no ka Poʻe Kīnānā

1010 Richards Street, Rm. 118 • Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813
Ph. (808) 586-8121 (V) • Fax (808) 586-8129 • (808) 204-2466 (VP)

March 30, 2026

TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill 1800 House Draft 1– Relating to the State Budget

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) supports House Bill 1800 House Draft 1– Relating to the State Budget. This bill adjusts and requests appropriations for fiscal biennium 2025-2027 funding requirements for operations and capital improvement projects of Executive Branch agencies and programs and is effective 7/1/3000.

DCAB is in support of the proposed House adjustment of FY27: $140,000 for the American Sign Language Bachelor's Program.

DCAB is requesting to include students who wish to take Graduate courses to amend the House adjustment to read as follows:

Program ID: UOH1000 – University of Hawaiʻi at Mānoa
Structure #: 070301000000
SEQ #: 1100-001
House Adjustment:
Add funds – University of Hawaiʻi, Mānoa (UOH 100)
****
Detail of House Adjustment:
American Sign Language Bachelor's and Graduate Program ($140,000 A)

An American Sign Language (ASL) Bachelor's and Graduate Program create an educational pathway for Hawaiʻi students who wish to pursue a career as an ASL interpreter and or use ASL in their professional career such as a medical doctor, business owner, or any field. The programs will not only help increase the number of qualified interpreters serving Hawaiʻi's deaf and hard of hearing community, but at any time where there is a need to facilitate communication with an individual has a communication disability, thereby achieving the federal ADA definition of effective communication.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristine Pagano

KRISTINE PAGANO
Acting Executive Director

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIAʻĀINA

STATE OF HAWAIʻI | KA MOKUʻĀINA ʻO HAWAIʻI
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION
Ka ʻOihana Hoʻomalu Kalaima a Hoʻoponopono Ola
1177 Alakea Street
Honolulu, Hawaiʻi 96813

TOMMY JOHNSON
DIRECTOR

Melanie Martin
Deputy Director
Administration

Vacant
Deputy Director
Correctional Institutions

Sanna Muñoz
Deputy Director
Rehabilitation Services and Programs

No. _____

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 1800, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET.

by
Tommy Johnson, Director
Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair

Monday, March 30, 2026; 10:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 211 & via Videoconference

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (DCR) **supports** House Bill (HB) 1800, House Draft (HD) 1, which proposes to amend Act 250, Session Laws of Hawaiʻi (SLH) 2025, that appropriates funds for the operating budget and capital improvements program (CIP) for the current fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

DCR appreciates the support of the House Committee on Finance for our fiscal year 2026-2027 supplemental budget request for the operating budget for an additional 35.0 FTE positions for PSD 421-Health Care. This request is funding neutral via a transfer of funds from PSD 808. DCR is also grateful for the additional adjustments of $600,000 (MOF B) in expenditure ceiling for the Statewide Automated Victim Information Notification Special Fund (SAVIN), and $200,000 (MOF A) in additional funding for our Offender Reentry Program. In total, the request is for 2,648.60 permanent positions, 43.00 temporary positions, and funding totaling $320,512,288 for all means of financing.

DCR is also grateful for the CIP funding in HD 1.The CIP funding increases for Facility Wide Security Perimeter (+$5,000,000), General Administration Lump Sum

(+$5,000,000), and WCCC Kitchen Expansion (+$2,500,000) will allow DCR to implement much needed improvements and upgrades to our antiquated facilities statewide. In total, HB 1800, HD 1 adds an additional $48,002,000 to DCR's CIP budget for the supplemental fiscal year 2026-2027.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **support** of HB 1800, HD 1.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
Governor

SYLVIA LUKE
Lt. Governor

SHARON HURD
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

DEAN M. MATSUKAWA
Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawai'i
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
KA 'OIHANA MAHI'AI
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96814-2512
Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

TESTIMONY OF SHARON HURD
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE AND BIOSECURITY

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

MARCH 30, 2026
10:00 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 211

HOUSE BILL NO. 1800, HD1
RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

Chairperson Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 1800, HD1. This bill amends Act 250, Session Laws of Hawaii 2025 and other appropriations and makes additional appropriations for fiscal biennium 2025-2027. The Department supports this bill.

We appreciate that the House Committee on Finance included the Department's Executive Budget and Governor's Message No. 2 requests into H.D.1. We respectfully request that those items as well as those requested in Governor's Message No. 6 be included in the Senate budget.

We support the inclusion of House adjustments that were made in the House draft as the additions will allow the Department to continue participation in trade shows, enhance the services provided by the Agricultural Development Division, continue funding the existing Grant Writer position, and facilitate the safe disposal of pesticides.

The capital improvements program request includes funds for various irrigation improvements statewide, major repairs to department facilities, and various projects to improve agricultural infrastructure including the development of the Kunia Agricultural

Park. The increase in funding for Wahiawa Dam Improvements requested in Governor's Message No. 6 reflects the current estimate of the design consultants.

Requests for Green Fee projects in Governor's Message No. 2 include general funds for the Hawaii Mesonet Project that will support statewide weather and climate monitoring and provide real-time environmental data. A general obligation (G.O.) bond fund request is to install photovoltaic and battery energy storage systems for the Department's irrigation systems to prepare for Public Safety Power Shutoffs and other power disruptions.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA

EDWIN H. SNIFFEN
DIRECTOR
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

Deputy Directors
Nā Hope Luna Ho'okele
DREANALEE K. KALILI
TAMMY L. LEE
CURT T. OTAGURO
ROBIN K. SHISHIDO

STATE OF HAWAI'I | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION | KA 'OIHANA ALAKAU
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

Wednesday, April 1, 2026
10:00 AM
State Capitol, 211

HB1800, HD1
RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

The Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) supports H.B. 1800, HD1, which adjusts and requests appropriations for fiscal biennium 2025–2027 funding requirements for operations and capital improvement program projects of Executive Branch agencies and programs.

HDOT respectfully requests your consideration of the attached impact statements that detail the impacts to our programs. We ask that your committee restore the reductions in the H.D.1 and provide funding for the additional requests.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

						Department's Original Budget Request						GFAC Recommendation via GM2											
						FY26			FY27			FY26			FY27								
OP/CIP	ProgID	SubOrg	Priority (1 = highest)	SeqNo (OP) ItemNo (CIP)	Description of Request	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Description of Change in GM2	Impact of Change	Priority to Restore (1 = highest priority to restore funding to department's original budget request)	Alternative Reduction for Any Opposed Reductions	Amount for Personal Services	Amount for Grants pursuant to Chapter 42F HRS	Comments
OP	TRN595	DB	1	130-001	InSAR Satellite Data Collection	-	-	$ -	-	-	$ 1,000,000.00	-	-	$ -	-	-	$ 1,000,000.00	Non-Recurring	If the green fee InSAR satellite data collection is treated as non-recurring in HB1 and only $1.0 million is provided in the first year, the scope of work will be limited to foundational data acquisition and integration. This includes collection of InSAR, SMAP, and LiDAR datasets, as well as development of a historical wildfire inventory (ignition locations, dates, burn areas, and spread rates) and incorporation into a GIS platform. Under this reduced funding scenario, HDOT will be unable to advance critical analytical and operational components of the project. Specifically, the following elements would not be completed: Development of predictive models for wildfire ignition risk, burn area, and spread rate. Implementation of an operational wildfire alert system. Creation of automated algorithms to generate draft updates to wildfire prediction models. Assessment and modeling of secondary hazards, including rockfall and landslide risks following wildfire events. The total estimated cost to fully implement the wildfire component of the five-year proposal is $2.5 million. An additional $2.5 million would be required to address associated post-wildfire geohazard risks (rockfall and landslides), for a combined program cost of $5.0 million. If the full $2.5 million for the wildfire component is provided upfront in the first year, HDOT would be able to deliver a fully operational wildfire prediction and alert system within approximately three years.					Funds included in HB1800 HD1 (2026).
CIP	TRN595		2	N/A	Low Carbon Transportation Materials (LCTM) Program, Statewide	-	-	$ -	-	-	$ 6,000,000.00	-	-	$ -	-	-	$ -	Not included in GFAC Recommendation via Governor's Message No. 2 dated January 30, 2026.	No action					Not included in HB1800 HD1 (2026).
Additional Adjustments: Governor's Message pending concurrence, approval and submittal by B&F and Governor.																							
OP	TRN595	DB	1		Debris Removal	-	-	$ -	-	-	$ 3,000,000.00	-	-	$ -	-	-	$ -	n/a	n/a					HDOT respectfully requests your favorable consideration to include the following operating budget item to be funded by the Green Fee: <u>Highways Administration (TRN595/DB)</u> • Add $3,000,000 in general funds in FY 27 for debris removal and Kona low cleanup efforts along transportation corridors to support environmental stewardship, climate and hazard resilience, and sustainable tourism goals of the Green Fee Program. Many areas immediately adjacent to highways, airports, and harbors including county and other lands have experienced increasing debris accumulation, which negatively impacts the safety, environmental quality, and overall quality of life. Because these lands fall outside state jurisdiction, the State currently has limited ability to address these conditions despite their direct visibility and impact on the public. This funding would allow the HDOT to partner with counties, community organizations, and landowners to remove debris, restore affected areas, and improve the condition of critical transportation corridors, supporting all three key goals of the Green Fee Program—Environmental Stewardship, Climate and Hazard Resilience, and Sustainable visitor management.

						Department's Original Budget Request						GFAC Recommendation via GM2										
						FY26			FY27			FY26			FY27							
OP/CIP	ProgID	SubOrg	Priority (1 = highest)	SeqNo (OP) ItemNo (CIP)	Description of Request	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Description of Change in GM2	Impact of Change	Priority to Restore (1 = highest priority to restore funding to department's original budget request)	Alternative Reduction for Any Opposed Reductions	Amount for Personal Services	Amount for Grants pursuant to Chapter 42F HRS	Comments
OP	TRN995	AA	1	130-001	Kalaeloa Reef Laboratory Project	-	-	$ -	-	-	$ 915,000.00	-	-	$ -	-	-	$ 915,000.00	Non-Recurring	N/A					Funds included in HB1800 HD1 (2026). HDOT agrees with the change from recurring to non-recurring. The requested $915k will allow HDOT to test a living, self-healing hybrid reef that can attenuate wave energy and monitor the effectiveness of the hybrid reef in the first year. This will provide decision makers with the necessary information to continue monitoring and replicate and scale the hybrid reef prototype if successful. If successful, a hybrid reef could provide a viable alternative and/or complement to shoreline hardening in the face of increasingly frequent high wave storms.
OP	TRN995	AA	2	130-003	Piliihe'e Fishpond Restoration	-	1.00	$ 420,000.00	-	2.00	$ 240,000.00	-	-	$ -	-	-	$ 240,000.00	Non-Recurring	n/a					Funds for FY27 included in HB1800 HD1 (2026). HDOT agrees with the change from recurring to non-recurring. If the pilot proves successful as an alternative method of preserving shorelines, consistent maintenance in partnership with the fishpond community steward would be required.
OP	TRN995	AA	6	N/A	Free Youth Transit	-	-	$ -	-	-	$ 8,900,000.00	-	-	$ -	-	-	$ -	Not included in GFAC Recommendation via Governor's Message No. 2 dated January 30, 2026.	There remains a funding need of approximately $10M annual to provide free youth transit on County-run public bus and rail. Removing the cost barrier for youth to use County-run public transit is a priority emissions reduction strategy that will directly reduce emissions, reduce traffic, improve youth health, and have lasting benefits of the next generation using public transit instead of vehicles.					Not included in HB1800 HD1 (2026).
OP	TRN995	AA	4	N/A	5 Year Priority Multimodal Network	-	-	$ -	-	-	$ 50,000,000.00	-	-	$ -	-	-	$ -	Not included in GFAC Recommendation via Governor's Message No. 2 dated January 30, 2026.	HDOT is obligated under the Navahine Settlement Agreement and existing state law to build out the Priority Multimodal Network - projects on all islands that fill critical gaps in the transit, pedestrian and bicycle networks. HDOT will seek Federal funds to support its work.					Not included in HB1800 HD1 (2026).
OP	TRN995	AA	5	N/A	Installation of Additional Public EV Chargers	-	-	$ -	-	-	$ 20,000,000.00	-	-	$ -	-	-	$ -	Not included in GFAC Recommendation via Governor's Message No. 2 dated January 30, 2026.	Additional funds are needed to build out critical public EV charging stations. HB1620 is a bill being considered by the legislature that could aid in this effort.					Not included in HB1800 HD1 (2026).
OP	TRN995	AA	7	N/A	Carbon Sequestration Study	-	-	$ -	-	-	$ 500,000.00	-	-	$ -	-	-	$ -	Not included in GFAC Recommendation via Governor's Message No. 2 dated January 30, 2026.	In future years, the Advisory Committee may want to consider supporting studies of the carbon sequestration rates of Hawaii's diverse ecosystems such as native dryland forest, and coastal wetlands.					Not included in HB1800 HD1 (2026).
OP	TRN995	AA			Pl'l (Project Island Impact) Tool	-	-	$ -	-	-	$ 500,000.00	-	-	$ -	-	-	$ -	Not included in GFAC Recommendation via Governor's Message No. 2 dated January 30, 2026.	n/a					Not included in HB1800 HD1 (2026).

					GOV Budget						House Draft									
					FY26			FY27			FY26			FY27						
OP/CIP	ProgID	SubOrg	Seq# (OP) Item # (CIP)	Description of Request	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Description of Change in HD1	Impact of Change	Priority to Restore (1 = highest priority to restore funding to GOV budget)	Alternative Reduction for Any Opposed Reductions
OP	TRN195	BB	302-001	CBP Seamless Border Entry Program						2,500,000.00						1	$1 (for placeholder purpose)	House does not concur. Without full funding, Airports will not be able to support the state's destination management goals by improving the passenger experience by reducing wait times for international travelers. The program also strengthens security through technology-driven, expedited processing.	1	Without full funding to implement the program and support on-going maintenance costs, the scope of the project mayl be limited to the point where Custom Borders Protection may choose another US airport for implementation.
OP	TRN195	BB	302-002	Student Helpers & Interns						500,000.00						400,001.00	$1 (for placeholder purposes for misc expenses.	Similar to regular employees, student interns have costs associated with their hire. These costs include, backgroud security and badging expenses, work station equipment and software licenses, and other program expenses.	2	The Internship and Workforce Development Program plays a critical role in preparing students and early-career professionals for employment through hands-on experience, mentorship, and skills training. Operational funding is essential to ensure the program's continued success and support administrative coordination. The requested funds will help maintain program quality and align with the state's workforce development goals. With less funding, the program would face limitations in meeting demand, maintaining quality, and advancing the state's broader workforce development priorities, which depend on cultivating future talent to support transportation sector needs

					GOV Budget						House Draft								
					FY26			FY27			FY26			FY27					
OP/CIP	ProgID	SubOrg	Seq# (OP) Item # (CIP)	Description of Request	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Description of Change in HD1	Impact of Change	Priority to Restore (1 = highest priority to restore funding to GOV budget)	Alternative Reduction for Any Opposed Reductions
OP	TRN395	CB	SEQ.#100-0	Port Electronic Data Interchange (EDI)						$ 9,000,000						$ 4,500,000	EEDP Consultant Svcs-Harbors (FY27: 4,500,000) $4,500,000 Non-Recurring	The reduction in funding for TRN 395 significantly limits the scope and effectiveness of the Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) initiative. With only $4.5 million, the project will proceed but will only deliver a scaled down version of the system originally designed to modernize how cargo data is collected, managed, and shared across Hawai'i's commercial harbor system. The EDI was intended to provide comprehensive cargo visibility, improve the accuracy of harbor user reporting and payment auditing, and support enforcement and biosecurity inspections through statewide data sharing. Under the reduced appropriation, the project scope must be narrowed to the minimum components needed for basic port administration functions, rather than serving its broader intended purpose, and diminishing long-term efficiency gains, limiting user participation, and reducing the value of the investment by preventing the multi-agency implementation necessary to fully modernize cargo oversight. At the original, $9 million level, using general funds, the EDI would have integrated data and operational workflows across multiple state departments, including the Department of Agriculture's Biosecurity Division and the Department of Law Enforcement. This cross agency functionality was a core justification of the original request and addressed the urgent statewide need to manage and share cargo information, especially for shipments posing biosecurity or law enforcement risk. At $4.5 million, these integrations are no longer feasible. Other state agencies will not have access to the cargo data they require for enforcement, inspection, and risk assessment. This significantly weakens the State's ability to identify high risk cargo, coordinate inspection activity, and respond effectively to threats that impact public safety and Hawai'i's biosecurity. Operationally, the reduction imposes additional burdens on HDOT Harbors staff. Contracted project management and technical support-originally planned as part of full funding-must be eliminated or sharply reduced.		
OP	TRN395	CB	SEQ.#302-0	Internship and Workforce Development Program						$ 200,000						$ 150,001	Student Helpers and Interns (FY27: 150,000) Misc Expenses (FY27: 1)	The reduction in funding will significantly limit the program's effectiveness in addressing workforce shortages and developing entry level talent. The Internship and Workforce Development Program under TRN 395 is designed to strengthen Harbors' capacity by establishing a reliable pipeline of student helpers, interns, and emerging professionals who provide meaningful operational and administrative support. Harbors has previously relied on vacancy savings and supplemental requests to support interns, underscoring the ongoing workforce gaps the program is designed to mitigate. Without sufficient funding, Harbors risks losing an important mechanism for cultivating future employees, reducing operational support during peak workload periods, and undermining long term succession planning. In addition, it impacts Harbors ability to sustain adequate numbers of interns and student helpers and limits resources available for program administration and support. Interns are compensated from the program's personnel allocation, while other program needs-such as materials, training, software licenses for Microsoft 365, Adobe Acrobat, and other limited platforms, commuting or parking, and coordination—are funded through additional current expenses. Reduced funding constrains both categories, resulting in fewer available participants and diminished program flexibility. The Internship and Workforce Development Program under TRN 395 is designed to strengthen Harbors capacity by developing a reliable pipeline of student helpers, interns, and emerging professionals who can support critical operational and administrative functions. The program requires sufficient		

					GOV Budget						House Draft								
					FY26			FY27			FY26			FY27					
OP/CIP	ProgID	SubOrg	Seq# (OP) Item # (CIP)	Description of Request	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Description of Change in HD1	Impact of Change	Priority to Restore (1 = highest priority to restore funding to GOV budget)	Alternative Reduction for Any Opposed Reductions
OP	531	DF	10-001	Trade-Off/Transfer						$ (90,144)						$ -	House does not concur	DOTHWY has determined there is sufficient FY 27 funding in TRN 531/DF Maui Highways (Maui Office) to meet its payroll requirements. Funding is not being transferred from the same position. Instead, payroll savings within the program will be reallocated to support PN 16942, Automotive Mechanic Helper.	2	
OP	531	DF	10-002	Trade-Off/Transfer						$ 90,144						$ -	House does not concur	DOTHWY has determined there is sufficient FY 27 funding in TRN 531/DF Maui Highways (Maui Office) to meet its payroll requirements. Funding is not being transferred from the same position. Instead, payroll savings within the program will be reallocated to support PN 16942, Automotive Mechanic Helper.	3	
OP	595	DB	109-101	Safe Routes to School						$ 3,000,000						$ -	House does not concur	The requested $3,000,000 in recurring funds, to be supported by the Safe Routes to School special fund, is needed for the ongoing implementation of the Safe Routes to School Program. The program requires continued funding to identify, plan, and implement safety improvements that enable students to safely walk and bicycle to school. Recurring funds are necessary because the program involves ongoing planning, engineering assessments, infrastructure improvements, community outreach, and coordination with schools and counties to address safety needs around school zones across the state. Funds will be allocated based on recommendations from the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Advisory Committee to support pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements around schools, including planning, design, and implementation of safety measures. These funds may also be used to provide the required match for federal SRTS related funds received by the State or counties, allowing additional federal resources to be leveraged. If the program does not receive the full requested $3,000,000, fewer projects will be implemented and the ability to leverage federal funding may be reduced. At reduced funding levels the planned safety improvements may be delayed or scaled back, fewer school zones may receive safety upgrades, and the State may be limited in its ability to provide the matching funds needed to access certain federal funding opportunities.	1	
OP	595	DB	302-004	Internship						$ 201,000						$ -	House does not concur	The Internship and Workforce Development Program plays a critical role in preparing students and early-career professionals for employment through hands-on experience, mentorship, and skills training. Operational funding is essential to ensure the program's continued success and support administrative coordination. The requested funds will help maintain program quality and align with the state's workforce development goals. With less funding, the program would face limitations in meeting demand, maintaining quality, and advancing the state's broader workforce development priorities, which depend on cultivating future talent to support transportation sector needs	4	
OP	597	AB	302-002	Automated Speed Enforcement Program						$ 3,162,000						$ 3,083,087	House does not concur	The requested $3,162,000 in recurring funds supports the continued operation and maintenance of the Automated Speed Enforcement Program as well as the continued expansion of the program. These costs are recurring because the program requires ongoing system operation, equipment maintenance, data processing, and coordination with enforcement and administrative entities to ensure the system functions reliably and citations can be processed. The funds support the following expenses: ·System operation and maintenance – servicing cameras, vehicle detection equipment, communication systems, and associated hardware installed at signalized intersections. ·Equipment repair and replacement – replacement of cameras, detection sensors, cabling, and other system components that experience wear due to environmental exposure and continuous operation. ·Data processing and system management – processing violation images, maintaining system software, and managing the data transmission infrastructure required for enforcement. ·Administrative and program support – coordination with enforcement agencies and program management necessary to maintain the statewide automated speed enforcement program. If the program does not receive the full requested funding, additional locations will not be implemented based on percentage of funds provided. At reduced funding levels, existing locations will experience reduced system maintenance and delayed equipment replacement, resulting in decreased operational reliability of the program. Potential impacts may include increased equipment downtime, delayed repairs, and reduced enforcement coverage at affected intersections	5	

					GOV Budget						House Draft									
					FY26			FY27			FY26			FY27						
OP/CIP	ProgID	SubOrg	Seq# (OP) Item # (CIP)	Description of Request	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Description of Change in HD1	Impact of Change	Priority to Restore (1 = highest priority to restore funding to GOV budget)	Alternative Reduction for Any Opposed Reductions
OP	597	AB	302-004	Red Light Running						$ 3,162,000						$ 3,083,087	House does not concur	The requested $3,162,000 in recurring funds supports the continued operation and maintenance of the Photo Red Light Imaging Detector System Program as well as the continued expansion of the program. These costs are recurring because the program requires ongoing system operation, equipment maintenance, data processing, and coordination with enforcement and administrative entities to ensure the system functions reliably and citations can be processed. The funds support the following expenses: ·System operation and maintenance – servicing cameras, vehicle detection equipment, communication systems, and associated hardware installed at signalized intersections. ·Equipment repair and replacement – replacement of cameras, detection sensors, cabling, and other system components that experience wear due to environmental exposure and continuous operation. ·Data processing and system management – processing violation images, maintaining system software, and managing the data transmission infrastructure required for enforcement. ·Administrative and program support – coordination with enforcement agencies and program management necessary to maintain the statewide red light safety program. If the program does not receive the full requested funding, additional locations will not be implemented based on percentage of funds provided. At reduced funding levels, existing locations will experience reduced system maintenance and delayed equipment replacement, resulting in decreased operational reliability of the program. Potential impacts may include increased equipment downtime, delayed repairs, and reduced enforcement coverage at affected intersections.	6	

					GOV Budget						House Draft									
					FY26			FY27			FY26			FY27						
OP/CIP	ProgID	SubOrg	Seq# (OP) Item # (CIP)	Description of Request	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Description of Change in HD1	Impact of Change	Priority to Restore (1 = highest priority to restore funding to GOV budget)	Alternative Reduction for Any Opposed Reductions
OP	TRN 695	AC	Seq.# 302-001	To convert the Aloha Tower Development Corporation (ATDC) Program Specialist (PN 124194) from permanent to temporary and update the salary using transfer from current expenses.				-1.00	1.00	221,400				0.00	0.00	-1	FY27 amount was reduced from $221,400 to -$1; position was not converted	Failure to provide the increased salary for the Aloha Tower Development Corporation (ATDC) Program Specialist position would materially impair the State's ability to meet its statutory responsibilities relating to ATDC which currently has one authorized position, which was originally established as a temporary appointment and converted to a permanent position in 2022. ATDC has determined that, given the evolving operational and redevelopment activity at the Aloha Tower Complex, the position must revert to its original temporary status to ensure appropriate flexibility in responding to development, leasing, and property management demands. Without the increased salary, ATDC will face challenges attracting and retaining a candidate with the specialized experience required to oversee complex lease amendments, reconcile outdated legal documents with actual constructed conditions, and support multiple active redevelopment efforts. Recent and ongoing changes to the complex—including new commercial leasing activity in surrounding properties, the recent removal of the Falls of Clyde vessel, and renewed investment opportunities spurred by the construction of Skyline—require a highly skilled specialist to safeguard State interests and maintain compliance with existing governing documents. The absence of sufficient salary authority would severely impair ATDC's ability to manage these responsibilities effectively, delay critical lease and property management updates, and reduce the State's readiness to support economic development opportunities within this strategically important waterfront district. Not granting the transfer of funds between operating and personnel will jeopardize ATDC's ability to secure the professional skills necessary to manage these obligations. An Amendment was requested to WAM on March 5, 2026 to modify the request to $73,393.	5	N/A. Combined requests with Seq# 302-001 and 302-002 are cost neutral.
OP	TRN 695	AC	Seq.# 302-002	To convert the Aloha Tower Development Corporation (ATDC) Program Specialist (PN 124194) from permanent to temporary and update the salary using transfer from current expenses.						-221,000						1	FY27 amount was modified from -$221,000 y to $1	Failure to provide the increased salary for the Aloha Tower Development Corporation (ATDC) Program Specialist position would materially impair the State's ability to meet its statutory responsibilities relating to ATDC which currently has one authorized position, which was originally established as a temporary appointment and converted to a permanent position in 2022. ATDC has determined that, given the evolving operational and redevelopment activity at the Aloha Tower Complex, the position must revert to its original temporary status to ensure appropriate flexibility in responding to development, leasing, and property management demands. Without the increased salary, ATDC will face challenges attracting and retaining a candidate with the specialized experience required to oversee complex lease amendments, reconcile outdated legal documents with actual constructed conditions, and support multiple active redevelopment efforts. Recent and ongoing changes to the complex—including new commercial leasing activity in surrounding properties, the recent removal of the Falls of Clyde vessel, and renewed investment opportunities spurred by the construction of Skyline—require a highly skilled specialist to safeguard State interests and maintain compliance with existing governing documents. The absence of sufficient salary authority would severely impair ATDC's ability to manage these responsibilities effectively, delay critical lease and property management updates, and reduce the State's readiness to support economic development opportunities within this strategically important waterfront district. Not granting the transfer of funds between operating and personnel will jeopardize ATDC's ability to secure the professional skills necessary to manage these obligations. An Amendment was requested to WAM on March 5, 2026 to modify the request to $73,393.	5	N/A. Combined requests with Seq# 302-001 and 302-002 are cost neutral.
OP	TRN 995	AA	Seq# 101-001	To create an Employee Engagement Portal to improve internal communication, streamline access to services, and boost overall employee experience. It enables employees to stay informed, connected and supported throught their work journey.	0	0	0	0	0	675,000	0	0	0	0	0	100,001	FY27 amount was reduced from $675,000 to $100,001 non-recurring	The Employee Engagement Portal will foster a more connected and informed workforce. It will increase transparency around department initiatives and project performance. In addition, it will empower employees with intuitive access to tools and resources and reduce reliance on scattered email threads or static intranet pages. The portal promotes a positive company culture, recognition, and cross-functional collaboration. Funding for implementation and ongoing cloud based maintenance is essential to fully deploy and sustain this modern communication platform, which advances the department's broader employee engagement and organizational performance goals.	1	
OP	TRN 995	AA	Seq# 102-001	To provide funds to support the continued implementation and expansion of the Internship and Workforce Development Program, including resources for coordination, program administration, participant support, and other related improvements.	0	0	0	0	0	300,000	0	0	0	0	0	200,001	FY27 amount was reduced from $300,000 to $200,001.	The Internship and Workforce Development Program plays a critical role in preparing students and early-career professionals for employment through hands-on experience, mentorship, and skills training. Operational funding is essential to ensure the program's continued success and support administrative coordination. The requested funds will help maintain program quality and align with the state's workforce development goals. With less funding, the program would face limitations in meeting demand, maintaining quality, and advancing the state's broader workforce development priorities, which depend on cultivating future talent to support transportation sector needs	2	
OP	TRN 995	AA	Seq# 130-002, Green Fee request per GM2 (MOF A)	Environmental Stewardship	0	0	0	0	0	500,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	FY27 amount was reduced from $500,000 to $0; request to be performed by B&F.	General Administration supports that the request be performed by B&F.	8	

					GOV Budget						House Draft									
					FY26			FY27			FY26			FY27						
OP/CIP	ProgID	SubOrg	Seq# (OP) Item # (CIP)	Description of Request	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Description of Change in HD1	Impact of Change	Priority to Restore (1 = highest priority to restore funding to GOV budget)	Alternative Reduction for Any Opposed Reductions
OP	TRN 995	AA	Seq.# 302-003	Transfer of funds to support the reclassification of PN 6374 from Human Resources Assistant V, SR-13 to Departmental Program Officer (Workforce Development), EM-03 in the Personnel Office. Funds will come from a trade-off from other personal services.	0	0	0	0	0	-61,632	0	0	0	0	0	-1	FY27 amount was modifed from -$61,632 to -$1.	The rejection of the redescription request will limit PER's ability to stabilize and modernize HR operations at a time when workforce management demands continue to grow. Without this higher level resource, PER will need to continue relying on lower band classifications that have proven difficult to recruit and retain, increasing the likelihood of recurring vacancies and operational delays. This will, in turn, prolong workflow disruptions, reduce efficiency in supporting modal programs, and slow progress on department wide workforce development initiatives. The redescription would have resulted in a 136.3% position variance, with additional funding to be absorbed within the BJ1A 476 line item. Without approval, the department will be unable to leverage the planned reinvestment of existing resources to meet its operational workforce development needs. Overall, the impact of the committee's decision is a continued capacity shortfall in HR analytics, workforce planning, and department wide HR process improvement, resulting in slower execution of critical initiatives and reduced ability to address retention challenges that directly affect departmental operational performance.	4	N/A. Combined requests with Seq# 302-003 and 302-004 are cost neutral.
OP	TRN 995	AA	Seq.# 302-004	Transfer of funds to support the reclassification of PN 6374 from Human Resources Assistant V, SR-13 to Departmental Program Officer (Workforce Development), EM-03 in the Personnel Office. Funds will come from a trade-off from other personal services.	0	0	0	0	0	61,632	0	0	0	0	0	1	FY27 amount was modifed from $61,632 to $1.	The rejection of the redescription request will limit PER's ability to stabilize and modernize HR operations at a time when workforce management demands continue to grow. Without this higher level resource, PER will need to continue relying on lower band classifications that have proven difficult to recruit and retain, increasing the likelihood of recurring vacancies and operational delays. This will, in turn, prolong workflow disruptions, reduce efficiency in supporting modal programs, and slow progress on department wide workforce development initiatives. The redescription would have resulted in a 136.3% position variance, with additional funding to be absorbed within the BJ1A 476 line item. Without approval, the department will be unable to leverage the planned reinvestment of existing resources to meet its operational workforce development needs. Overall, the impact of the committee's decision is a continued capacity shortfall in HR analytics, workforce planning, and department wide HR process improvement, resulting in slower execution of critical initiatives and reduced ability to address retention challenges that directly affect departmental operational performance.	4	N/A. Combined requests with Seq# 302-003 and 302-004 are cost neutral.
OP	TRN 995	AA	Seq.# 302-001	Per Memoradum of Agreement (MOA), the Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) is in agreement to increase the Deputy Attorney General by one (1) full time employee.	0	0	0	0	0	231,000	0	0	0	0	0	1	FY27 amount was reduced from $230,000 to $1.	The addition of one Deputy General in the Transportation Divison of the Attorney General's office is necessary due to the increase and wide variety of legal services to Airports, Harbors, and Highways divisions/modes of Department of Transportation (DOT), as well as to DOT Administration. This includes but not limited to review of various documents including contracts, contract amendments, supplemental contracts, leases, permits, deeds, grant of easements, right-of-entries, use and occupancy agreements, memorandum of agreements, memorandum of understandings, emergency proclamations, executive orders, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) grant agreements, and FAA reimbursable agreements. Provide procurement advice regarding compliance with HRS chapter 103D including review of DOT's solicitation documents, providing guidance in responding to procurement protests, representing the DOT at administrative hearings before the Hawaii Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA), and handling any subsequent appeal regarding the administrative hearings. Provide advice regarding vessel impoundments including notice of impoundment, representing DOT in the event an administrative hearing is requested to contest an impoundment, and handling any subsequent appeal. Represent the DOT in state and federal court litigation defending against breach of contract claims, construction related claims and other legal related claims. Transportation deputies have also defended individual DOT employees in their personal capacity when it is determined that there was a potential conflict between the employee's position and the State's position. Represent the State and/or DOT, as plaintiff, in condemnation proceedings deemed necessary to acquire private property for various public purposes, such as building new highways and widening existing highways. Provide legal advice letters on various issues at the request of DOT. Legal support staff provide support to Transportation deputies in preparing and filing court and administrative hearing documents, drafting/preparing correspondence/transmittals, arranging travel, managing case and matter files, and processing payments for expenses related to legal case matter.	3	

					GOV Budget						House Draft									
					FY26			FY27			FY26			FY27						
OP/CIP	ProgID	SubOrg	Seq# (OP) Item # (CIP)	Description of Request	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Description of Change in HD1	Impact of Change	Priority to Restore (1 = highest priority to restore funding to GOV budget)	Alternative Reduction for Any Opposed Reductions
OP	~~[TRN 995]~~ TRN 595	~~[AA]~~ DB	Seq# 1100-001	Add funds for towing enforcement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	FIN adjustment	Transfer House add-on for Towing Enforcement from TRN995/AA to TRN595/DB for appropriate implementation.	7	
Additional Adjustments: Governor's Message pending concurrence, approval and submittal by B&F and Governor.																				
OP	TRN 995	AA		Change means of financing for one (1.00) FTE permanent position, currently filled, from federal funds to special funds for Statewide Transportation Planning Office.													Department's Original Budget Request; Not included in HD1	HDOT respectfully requests your favorable consideration to include the following operating budget adjustments: General Administration (TRN995/AA) • Change MOF for one (1.00) FTE from MOF N to MOF B. This housekeeping request to change means of financing for the General Professional V position and funds from federal funds to special funds is necessary to ensure continuity of operations and provide a reliable and appropriate funding source. This is the only position within General Administration (TRN995) that is federal-funded, as such shifting to special funds will provide consistency and allow the department to retain capacity and maintain program services. This position is currently filled.	6	n/a

Change MOF for one (1.00) FTE from MOF N to MOF B.

	Department's Original Budget Request					
	FY26			FY27		
MOF	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$
N	-	-	$ -	(1.00)	-	$ (87,893.00)
B	-	-	$ -	1.00	-	$ 87,893.00

Prog. ID	Proj No.	Project Title	Project Description	MOF	GOV.FY26	GOV.FY27	HD1.Δ.26	HD1.Δ.27	HD1.FY26	HD1.FY27	HDOT Impact Statement
TRN111	B10B	HILO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, AIRPORT IMPROVEMENTS, HAWAII	DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO TERMINALS, SYSTEMS, AND FACILITIES AT THE AIRPORT. THIS PROJECT IS DEEMED NECESSARY TO QUALIFY FOR FEDERAL AID FINANCING AND/OR REIMBURSEMENT.	E	26,000	7,030	-	-	26,000	7,030	
TRN111	B10B	HILO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, AIRPORT IMPROVEMENTS, HAWAII	DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO TERMINALS, SYSTEMS, AND FACILITIES AT THE AIRPORT. THIS PROJECT IS DEEMED NECESSARY TO QUALIFY FOR FEDERAL AID FINANCING AND/OR REIMBURSEMENT.	N	1	-	-	1	1	1	The Department supports the addition of $1,000 to the federal appropriation in FY 27 as this will provide more flexibility to the Hilo International Airport program.
TRN131	D04Y	KAHULUI AIRPORT, AIRPORT IMPROVEMENTS, MAUI	DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO TERMINALS, SYSTEMS, AND FACILITIES AT THE AIRPORT. THIS PROJECT IS DEEMED NECESSARY TO QUALIFY FOR FEDERAL AID FINANCING AND/OR REIMBURSEMENT.	E	52,250	67,000	-	-	52,250	67,000	
TRN131	D04Y	KAHULUI AIRPORT, AIRPORT IMPROVEMENTS, MAUI	DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO TERMINALS, SYSTEMS, AND FACILITIES AT THE AIRPORT. THIS PROJECT IS DEEMED NECESSARY TO QUALIFY FOR FEDERAL AID FINANCING AND/OR REIMBURSEMENT.	N	5,000	-	-	1	5,000	1	The Department supports the addition of $1,000 to the federal appropriation in FY 27 as this will provide more flexibility to the Kahului Airport program.
TRN133	D20A	HANA AIRPORT, AIRPORT IMPROVEMENTS, MAUI	DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO TERMINALS, SYSTEMS, AND FACILITIES AT THE AIRPORT.	E	-	11,386	-	-	-	11,386	
TRN133	D20A	HANA AIRPORT, AIRPORT IMPROVEMENTS, MAUI	DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO TERMINALS, SYSTEMS, AND FACILITIES AT THE AIRPORT.	N	-	-	-	1	-	1	The Department supports the addition of $1,000 to the federal appropriation in FY 27 as this will provide more flexibility to the Hana Airport program.

Prog. ID	Proj No.	Project Title	Project Description	MOF	GOV.FY26	GOV.FY27	HD1.Δ.26	HD1.Δ.27	HD1.FY26	HD1.FY27	HDOT Impact Statement
TRN511	TP2401	ACCELERATION LANE FROM MAMAKI STREET ONTO ROUTE 11 GOING HILO BOUND, HAWAII	CONSTRUCTION TO ADD AN ACCELERATION LANE FROM MAMAKI STREET ONTO ROUTE 11 GOING HILO BOUND.	E	-	1,210	-	240	-	1,450	HDOT supports the use of HWY funds for this increase to meet current cost estimates for this ongoing project.
TRN511	HSE ADD-ON	HIGHWAY 130 IMPROVEMENTS, HAWAII	PLANS, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION FOR HIGHWAY 130 IMPROVEMENTS INTO KEEAU TRANSFER STATION.	E	-	-	-	2,000	-	2,000	HDOT supports the use of HWY funds for this project to mitigate traffic congestion in the Puna area on the Big Island.
TRN511	HSE ADD-ON	ROUTE 11 IMPROVEMENTS, HAWAII	PLANS, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION FOR RESURFACING AND IMPROVEMENTS TO ROUTE 11 ALONG MP 60.2 AND MP 63.2.	C	-	-	-	4,700	-	4,700	HDOT supports this project, and appreciates the provision of GO Bond funds so that it will not negatively impact HWY project funding resources in order to accelerate construction from FY40 to FY27.
TRN531	HSE ADD-ON	LAHAINA BYPASS EXTENSION, MAUI	PLANS, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION FOR THE LAHAINA BYPASS EXTENSION.	E	-	-	-	3,000	-	3,000	HDOT supports this design-build (D/B) project. It is to be 100% federally funded, with Federal Highway Funds being matched with a Maui County HUD grant. State funds required for pre-implementation of the D/B contract will be minimal in relation to the improvements to be gained.
TRN561	HSE ADD-ON	LIMA OLA AND KAUMUALII HIGHWAY, KAUAI	DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION FOR LIMA OLA AND KAUMUALII HIGHWAY INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS; PROVIDED THAT MATCHING FUNDS BE PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY OF KAUAI.	E	-	-	-	3,000	-	3,000	HDOT supports the use of HWY funds in conjunction with Kauai County funds at the ceilings indicated, in order to provide needed intersection improvements resulting from the Lima Ola affordable housing development.
TRN561	HSE ADD-ON	LIMA OLA AND KAUMUALII HIGHWAY, KAUAI	DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION FOR LIMA OLA AND KAUMUALII HIGHWAY INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS; PROVIDED THAT MATCHING FUNDS BE PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY OF KAUAI.	S	-	-	-	3,000	-	3,000	

GOV	HD1	Proviso Title	Proviso Description	Proviso Text	HDOT Impact Statement
8, (12).	49.6.	Transfer Funds, Generally	To authorize the transfer of operating funds appropriated within an expending agency.	Unless otherwise provided in this Act, the governor is authorized to transfer operating funds between appropriations within the same fund, within an expending agency, for operating purposes.	**Provide the legislative authorization to all departments to transfer funds, generally.** **AIR** This allows the Governor to approve any fund transfer between programs within an expending agency or department to best utilize available resources within its budget ceiling to meet the department's operations and maintenance requirements. **HAR** DOT-HAR respectfully requests that this provision be incorporated into future bill drafts. The ability to transfer funds between program areas within DOT HAR will provide critical flexibility in managing operational needs across a diverse statewide system of facilities and services. Harbors operations encounter unanticipated requirements — including urgent operating maintenance needs and safety measures. Authorizing transfer of funds within the department's existing budget ceiling will allow DOT HAR to reallocate resources efficiently, maximize the use of available appropriations, and ensure continuity of essential maritime operations. Historically, DOT-HAR has exercised similar authorities responsibly to support mission critical functions and maintain safe, reliable harbor facilities statewide, which were extremely beneficial for the smaller harbors that had limited funds for unexpected requirements. **HWY** DOT-HWY respectfully requests the provision be inserted into future bill drafts. The provision will allow DOT-HWY to fund unforeseen needs within the program's available appropriations. This will allow flexibility in utilizing its budget authority and allow the maximization use of its funds. The ability to transfer funds between its programs allows DOT-HWY to reallocate its budget authority as necessary for unanticipated circumstances requiring immediate attention. Historically, DOT-HWY has judiciously exercised the use of the provision to meet the operating needs of its programs.
8, (13).	49.7.	Transfer Positions, Generally	To authorize the transfer of positions appropriated within a department's or agency's authorized position ceiling.	Except as otherwise provided in this Act, each department or agency is authorized to transfer positions within its respective authorized position ceiling for the purpose of maximizing the utilization of personnel resources and staff productivity; provided that all such actions shall be with the prior approval of the governor and shall be consistent with appropriations provided in this Act and with provisions of part II of chapter 37, Hawaii Revised Statutes.	**Provide the legislative authorization to all departments to transfer positions, generally.** **AIR** This allows the Governor to approve any position transfer between programs within the department to best utilize available resources within the position ceiling to fulfill operations and maintenance requirements. **HAR** DOT HAR respectfully requests the inclusion of this provision in future bill drafts. The authority to reassign positions between programs enables DOT-HAR to address changing workload demands across its statewide commercial harbor system and direct staffing to mission critical functions. This flexibility supports safe, efficient port operations and ensures DOT-HAR can meet statewide maritime needs. **HWY** DOT-HWY respectfully requests the provision be inserted into future bill drafts. The provision allows DOT-HWY to maximize the use of its personnel to meet its operational needs. **ADM** Transferring positions allows DOT to maximize the use of authorized position counts.

GOV	HD1	Proviso Title	Proviso Description	Proviso Text	HDOT Impact Statement
Anticipated Amendment to Provisos: Governor's Message pending concurrence, approval and submittal by B&F and Governor.					
[+]	[-]	Transfer Funds, Department of Transportation	To authorize the transfer of operating funds appropriated within the department of transportation.	Unless otherwise provided in this Act, the governor is authorized to transfer operating funds between appropriations within the same fund, within the department of transportation, for operating purposes.	**Provide the legislative authorization to only the Department of Transportation to transfer funds.** **TRN** In the event that the Legislature declines to restore two boilerplate operating budget provisos that were included in HB1800 GOV Submittal and HB1800 HD1—(49.6.) Transfer Funds, Generally; and (49.7.) Transfer Positions, Generally—that *broadly authorizes all departments the flexibility to transfer funds and/or positions* within each department and across its Program IDs, the following alternative action is requested: DOT respectfully requests that the language of the boilerplate provisos be amended and included in future drafts that *specifically authorizes only DOT the flexibility to transfer funds and/or positions* within DOT and across its Program IDs. The Legislature may be inclined to limit and grant such authorizations to only DOT because DOT has responsibly utilized the discretion and flexibility that the Legislature has authorized by proviso sections under prior budgets. DOT respectfully requests that provisos that facilitate efficient and reasonable budget execution and effective implementation be included to expedite project delivery of critical infrastructure improvements. [PPB 12.3815; HD1 Testimony]
[+]	[-]	Transfer Positions, Department of Transportation	To authorize the transfer of positions appropriated within the department of transportation authorized position ceiling.	Except as otherwise provided in this Act, the department of transportation is authorized to transfer positions within its respective authorized position ceiling for the purpose of maximizing the utilization of personnel resources and staff productivity; provided further that all such actions shall be with the prior approval of the governor and shall be consistent with appropriations provided in this Act and with provisions of part II of chapter 37, Hawaii Revised Statutes.	**Provide the legislative authorization to only the Department of Transportation to transfer positions.** **TRN** In the event that the Legislature declines to restore two boilerplate operating budget provisos that were included in HB1800 GOV Submittal and HB1800 HD1—(49.6.) Transfer Funds, Generally; and (49.7.) Transfer Positions, Generally—that *broadly authorizes all departments the flexibility to transfer funds and/or positions* within each department and across its Program IDs, the following alternative action is requested: DOT respectfully requests that the language of the boilerplate provisos be amended and included in future drafts that *specifically authorizes only DOT the flexibility to transfer funds and/or positions* within DOT and across its Program IDs. The Legislature may be inclined to limit and grant such authorizations to only DOT because DOT has responsibly utilized the discretion and flexibility that the Legislature has authorized by proviso sections under prior budgets. DOT respectfully requests that provisos that facilitate efficient and reasonable budget execution and effective implementation be included to expedite project delivery of critical infrastructure improvements. [PPB 12.3815; HD1 Testimony]

GOV	HD1	Proviso Title	Proviso Description	Proviso Text	HDOT Impact Statement
[+]	[-]	Change Debt Service Funding for Prior CIP Authorization, Farrington Highway Widening, Kapolei Golf Course to Fort Weaver Road, Oahu	To ensure that debt service cost for the specified CIP project continues to be paid from the general fund and prohibits payment or reimbursement for debt service cost from the state highway fund.	Any law or provision to the contrary notwithstanding, for the capital improvement project authorized under Act 40, Session Laws of Hawaii 2019, as amended by Act 6, Session Laws of Hawaii 2020, Section 4, Item C-47.11, no debt service costs, including but not limited to bond principal, interest, reserve requirements, issuance costs, or other financing-related expenses, shall be paid or reimbursed from the state highway fund. All debt service costs for the project identified in this section shall be paid from the general fund.	**Provide the legislative authorization that amends the debt service funding for the specified prior CIP appropriation that is already initiated to constructively change the means of financing from MOF D to MOF C.** **HWY** Non Highway funds were originally authorized for the Farrington Highway Widening project because it was a Honolulu City & County project, not a state Highways program priority. As such, using Highway funds to repay those funds would undermine the original funding rationale and reduce resources available for actual state Highway needs. Changing the method of financing from MOF D to MOF C would keep roughly $100 million over ten years (about $10 million annually, plus interest) in the State Highway Special Fund for statewide operations and maintenance instead of using it to repay GOR financing. Under the current Multi Year Financial Plan, FY27 State Highway Special Fund expenditures include: • Special Maintenance Program (SMP): $45M • Routine O&M: $123K • Debt service: $76M If the MOF is not changed, the annual $10 million repayment would need to be absorbed within the Highways program. This would likely require reductions from: • Special Maintenance Program projects (pavement rehabilitation, bridge repair, safety improvements) • Routine operations and maintenance activities (roadway repairs, striping, drainage maintenance, and traffic signals maintenance) • Other statewide system preservation and safety related work across the state highway network As these funds support ongoing statewide highway maintenance and system preservation activities, redirecting $10 million per year to repay GOR financing would reduce the department's ability to maintain existing highway infrastructure and address critical safety and maintenance needs. In the outyears, these reductions would have a compounding effect as deferred maintenance accumulates and system preservation work is delayed. Over time, this would result in a growing backlog of maintenance needs and higher future repair costs as roadway and bridge conditions continue to deteriorate, ultimately requiring more significant investments to restore infrastructure to acceptable operating conditions. [PPB 12.3831; HD1 Testimony; See also PPB 12.3823 and B&F's Disposition]
[+]	[-]	Reauthorize Prior Operating Grant-In-Aid, Goodwill Industries of Hawaii, Inc.	To reauthorize the specified prior chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, Operating Grant-In-Aid.	There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of $100,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2026-2027 as a grant pursuant to chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for Goodwill Industries of Hawaii, Inc. for costs relating to charging stations and a fleet of electric vehicles and all expenses related to their application of funds. The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of transportation (TRN995) for the purposes of this section.	**Provide the legislative reauthorization for the specified chapter 42F, HRS, Operating GIA that lapsed due to manufacturing delays and thereby satisfy a pending reimbursement to the grant recipient for expense implementing and fulfilling the legislative purpose of the grant.** **ADM** Funds were encumbered and to be expended on a reimbursement basis to the grant recipient. However, manufacturing delays resulted in the grant not proceeding before the appropriated funds lapsed. At this time, this legislative reauthorization of the award is requested to satisfy payment on a pending reimbursement to the grant recipient for expense implementing and fulfilling the legislative intent of the Ch. 42F, HRS, Operating GIA. [PPB 12.3818; HD1 Testimony; B&F's Guidance; Administrative action proceeding simultaneously to exhaust alternatives.]

Numbers indicate that the subject proviso is included under the listed Section and/or Paragraph in the corresponding bill draft.

A plus symbol placed in brackets [+] indicates that the subject proviso is included amongst DOT's initiatives.

A minus symbol placed in brackets [-] indicates that the subject proviso was not included in the corresponding bill draft.

TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
KA ʻOIHANA O KA LOIO KUHINA
THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2026

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:
H.B. NO. 1800, H.D. 1, RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET.

BEFORE THE:
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

DATE: Wednesday, April 1, 2026 **TIME:** 10:00 a.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 211

TESTIFIER(S): Anne E. Lopez, Attorney General, or
Brenden B. Kinoshita, Administrative Services Manager

Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General (Department) strongly supports this bill, specifically, those appropriations within the budget that provide funding for the continued operations of the Department for the remainder of the 2025-2027 fiscal biennium.

Among the Department's requests for fiscal year 2026-2027 are an increase to the Department's line-item budget for litigation to address increasing litigation costs and fees, non-general fund adjustments to meet state funding match requirements for federal funds, and some cost-neutral housekeeping adjustments to better align the Department's budget with its programmatic and organizational structure. The Department's budget also includes a request from the administratively attached Law Enforcement Standards Board (LESB); the Department defers to the testimony of the LESB regarding its budget request, which is submitted independently from the Department.

The Department is also supportive of the adjustment made by the House Committee on Finance via Sequence No.70-001 on page 55 of the House budget worksheets to change the means of financing (MOF) for Position No. 49329 from revolving funds to general funds. Converting the MOF for this legal assistant position to general funds will provide the Department with maximum flexibility to utilize the position for any assignment not specifically funded by a client agency.

Altogether, these budget requests ensure the Department's ability and capacity to continue to deliver high quality legal services on behalf of the State and that the Department's budget accurately reflects its current programs and activities.

We thank the Committee for allowing the Department to provide testimony and respectfully ask the Committee to pass this bill with the requested appropriations.

STATE OF HAWAIʻI
OFFICE OF PLANNING
& SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DIRECTOR

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Telephone: (808) 587-2846
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Statement of
MARY ALICE EVANS, Director

before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Wednesday, April 1, 2026, 10:00AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

in consideration of
HB 1800, HD1
RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET.

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD) supports HB 1800, HD1, Relating to the State Budget.

The Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (BED144/PL) requests the Committee's support for the following GM 2 Green Fee requests:

- $2,000,000 in general funds (GM2) for the Natural Disaster Economic Recovery Strategy (NDERS) Update and Implementation to prepare small businesses for future disasters. This project will both refresh the NDERS—an existing strategy originally completed in 2014—and fund its implementation to help protect jobs and strengthen economic resilience.

- $400,000 in general funds (GM2) for the State Climate Adaptation & Resilience Plan to strengthen fiscal resilience, protect critical infrastructure, and prepare communities for a changing climate.

  Currently, the State of Hawaii does not have an official, comprehensive statewide Climate Adaptation and Resilience Plan. A statewide plan is needed to identify high-risk vulnerabilities, assess fiscal and infrastructure risks, and guide proactive investments before significant losses occur. The request includes:

  - A statewide, multi-hazard climate risk and vulnerability modeling to inform capital planning and reduce long-term liabilities.
  - Web-based mapping, visualization, and monitoring tools.
  - A cost-benefit and fiscal risk assessments to quantify losses and strengthen financial planning.
  - Stakeholder engagement, planning, and publication.

- $158,352 in general funds for 2.0 FTEs to manage and coordinate the multi-year effort. The work exceeds current staffing capacity.

This proposal aligns with best practices adopted by other states that have formalized statewide adaptation and resilience plans to integrate climate science into land use, infrastructure, fiscal policy, and emergency preparedness. These frameworks improve coordination, reduce long-term costs, enhance federal funding competitiveness, and address growing concerns from insurers and bond rating agencies as climate-related losses escalate.

- $7,000,000 in GO Bonds (GM2) in FY 2026 for Plans, Design, and Construction for Waikiki Beach Restoration Project, Oahu. The FEIS highlights the urgent need to address climate-driven erosion that threatens public safety, residents, and Hawaii's economy.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

JOSH B. GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIAʻĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
KE KEʻENA O KA HOPE KIAʻĀINA

STACEY A. ALDRICH
STATE LIBRARIAN
KE POʻO HALE WAIHONA PUKE MOKUʻĀINA

STATE OF HAWAIʻI
HAWAIʻI STATE PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM
ʻOIHANA HALE WAIHONA PUKE AUPUNI O KA MOKUʻĀINA O HAWAIʻI
OFFICE OF THE STATE LIBRARIAN
44 MERCHANT STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAIʻI 96813
(808) 586-3704

Senate Committee on Ways and Means
April 1, 2026, 10:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 211

HB 1800 HD1 – Relating to the State Budget

To: Sen. Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Sen. Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

The Hawaiʻi State Public Library System (HSPLS) **supports** HB1800 HD1 which adjusts and requests appropriations for fiscal biennium 2025-2027 funding requirements for operations and capital improvement projects of Executive Branch agencies and programs.

HSPLS recognizes significant shifts in federal policy are impacting direct funding to programs of the State of Hawaiʻi, as well as creating uncertainty affecting the State's economy. Although the HSPLS has received federal funding for federal fiscal year 2026, the Institute for Museum and Library Science grant to states program was a target for elimination through most of 2025, and we expect challenges to our federal funding to continue.

Federal funds have been a steady source of funding for HSPLS technology needs statewide, ensuring that all communities have the same access to digital resources. Given the precarious nature of federal funding budgeting currently, HSPLS is even more reliant on State funding in order to maintain services to our communities.

HB1800 HD1 includes funding for the HSPLS security guard contract, which is currently underfunded. The additional funding for the security guard contract will ensure that our base budget will have enough funding for the entire fiscal year and allow us to restore some needed services. Without the requested funding, approximately 10 more libraries will lose security guard services and several will have reduced hours, starting FY2027.

The HSPLS changed security guard contract vendors effective October 1, 2025. Due to the new vendor's higher hourly rate for security guards, the HSPLS had to reduce the number of service hours and locations covered by the contract to bring the total contract amount in line with the cost of the prior vendor contract.

Unfortunately, the cost savings from the reductions are not enough to cover the cost of the fully executed contract for the next fiscal year. Without the requested increase for security services, public libraries across our islands will not have the security guard services needed beginning in FY2027.

HB1800 HD1 includes $5 million capital improvement projects for planning and design for ʻEwa Beach, Kalihi, Kaimuki and Mililani public libraries. The funds will be used to initiate planning and design for renovation of these aging public libraries. Construction funding will be requested in future years. We also support the additional funding added for the Pahoa Library and Transit Hub and the Aina Haina Public Library.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB1800 HD1 and for your continued support of the Hawaiʻi State Public Library System.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR

JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA
DIRECTOR

DANE K. WICKER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

DENNIS T. LING
ADMINISTRATOR

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

KA ʻOIHANA HOʻOMOHALA PĀʻOIHANA, ʻIMI WAIWAI A HOʻOMĀKAʻIKAʻI

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT DIVISION

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96804
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Statement of
DENNIS T. LING
Administrator
Business Development and Support Division
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Wednesday, April 1, 2026
10:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

In consideration of
HB1800, HD1
RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET.

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki and members of the Committee. The Business Development and Support Division (BDSD) of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) offers the following comments on **HB1800, HD1** which adjusts and requests appropriations for fiscal biennium 2025-2027 funding requirements for operations and capital improvement projects of Executive Branch agencies and programs, including the Community-Based Economic Development Program's Revolving Fund.

BDSD acknowledges that the Community-Based Economic Development (CBED) Program was established in 1991 under Act 111, Session Laws of Hawaii 1991, and codified as Chapter 210D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, within DBEDT. The statute also created the CBED Revolving Fund.

From this fund, CBED administers the State's only state-operated small business loan program. It provides loans, typically between $50,000 and $125,000, to agricultural producers, manufacturers, and wholesalers seeking to expand their operations.

Structured as a revolving loan program, repayments are returned to the fund and re-lent to new businesses. This mechanism extends the impact of each appropriation, multiplying the effect and creating a sustainable cycle of investment. At of the end of 2025, the CBED loan program portfolio totaled $1.54M loans across 18 local businesses, with no history of defaults. BDSD maintains that this fund functions as a revolving fund and should remain as such, rather than be converted into a special fund.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT GOVERNOR

Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority
An Agency of the State of Hawaii

JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA
CHAIR

GWEN S YAMAMOTO LAU
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Testimony of
Gwen Yamamoto Lau
Executive Director
Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Wednesday, April 1, 2026
10:00 A.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 211 & Videoconference

in consideration of
HOUSE BILL NO. 1800, HD1
RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **strong support** of House Bill 1800, HD1, which provides the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority ("HGIA") (BED 138) the ability to continue administering its financing programs for underserved ratepayers, as well as bridge the access to capital gap for nonprofits, small businesses, commercial property owners and condo associations statewide.

HGIA's base budget request includes the Authority's lending ceiling, bond ceiling and operating budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of HB 1800, HD1.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR

DEAN MINAKAMI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM
HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
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Statement of
DEAN MINAKAMI
Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation
Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
April 01, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 211

In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1800, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET.

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and members of the Committee.

HHFDC **supports** House Bill 1800, House Draft 1, which includes a request under BED 160 to add 1.00 FTE Temporary Assistant Controller and increase the agency's expenditure ceiling by $176,000 in revolving funds (MOF W) to fund the position.

There are existing appropriations of $40 million to the Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund (DURF) and $100 million to the Rental Housing Revolving Fund (RHRF) in the Fiscal Year 2027 budget. The House has taken an important step forward by increasing the RHRF infusions by an additional $100,000,000 for RHRF primary and $30,000,000 for mixed-income rental projects (often referred to as Tier II). Hawaii's affordable housing demand continues to outpace available resources. To put the need in perspective, the 2026 consolidated application funding round drew over $1 billion in application requests for approximately 3,500 units.

While these appropriations alone cannot close the gap, they will allow more projects to advance and help ensure the affordable housing pipeline continues moving forward. HHFDC appreciates the Legislature's continued support for these appropriations.

$40,000,000 (MOF: C) for BED 160 Cash Infusion for Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund
DURF may be used for the acquisition of real property; development and construction of residential, commercial, and industrial properties; interim and permanent loans to developers; development of regional infrastructure; and all other necessary activities to carry out the purposes of HHFDC's Housing Development Program, including administrative expenses.

$100,000,000 (MOF: C) for BED 160 Cash Infusion for Rental Housing Revolving Fund
RHRF provides loans for the development, pre-development, construction, acquisition, preservation, and substantial rehabilitation of rental housing units.

Requested Position
The requested position is essential to ensure that HHFDC can continue to meet the State's urgent need for affordable housing production. As the State's lead financing and development agency for affordable housing, HHFDC has experienced substantial growth in both the scope and complexity of its programs. This expansion is driven directly by the magnitude of Hawaii's housing crisis and the Legislature's charge to deliver more affordable units, faster.

HHFDC has recently launched new initiatives such as the DURF Equity Pilot Program (DEP) and the multifamily bond recycling program, and has revitalized dormant programs, including the Kama'aina Homes mortgage program and down payment assistance program. At the same time, activity within established programs such as RHRF, Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program, multifamily private activity bonds, and multiple DURF-funded initiatives have continued to increase significantly.

Reflecting this statewide expansion of affordable housing investments, HHFDC's net position reached approximately $2.7 billion as of June 30, 2025. The agency's accounting workload has likewise increased: the number of general ledger accounts maintained by staff rose to 8,283 in FY 2025, representing an increase of 3,519 accounts over the past decade. Each account requires active maintenance, reconciliation, reporting, and audit support. HHFDC's current accounting team operates at full capacity and cannot absorb further increases without risking delays, compliance challenges, operational disruptions, or bond rating impacts.

HHFDC requests the addition of an Assistant Controller position as it will reinforce its financial management, internal controls, and operational resiliency across all programs that support affordable housing development. The Assistant Controller will ensure accurate, timely, and compliant financial operations that are foundational to delivering housing units.

Additionally, HHFDC faces a critical, time-sensitive transition: Microsoft and its partners will discontinue support for the agency's current accounting system. This system is integral to all HHFDC program operations, including bond transactions, loan disbursements, construction draws, and project-funded expenditures.

The procurement, implementation, testing, and parallel operation of a new accounting system will be an extraordinarily complex undertaking. Without additional staffing, this transition places HHFDC at risk of:

1. Disruption in project payments.

2. Audit findings that could jeopardize the bond ratings.

3. Delays in project closings.

4. Slowed delivery of urgently needed affordable housing.

The HHFDC financial statements are incorporated into the State's audited *Annual Comprehensive Financial Report,* further elevating the importance of a smooth transition.

The Assistant Controller will be fully engaged in managing this transition from end to end, ensuring uninterrupted financial operations during a period of unprecedented affordable housing investment.

For these reasons, the requested position and funding increase are not merely administrative. They are a strategic necessity to safeguard the State's affordable housing pipeline, protect financial integrity, and ensure the continued delivery of housing opportunities for Hawaii's residents.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR OF HAWAI'I
KE KIA'ĀINA O KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I

KENNETH S. FINK, MD, MGA, MPH
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

STATE OF HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO
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Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1800 HD1
RELATING TO RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET.

SENATOR DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Hearing Date: March 30, 2026 Room Number: 211

Fiscal Implications: Sufficient appropriations are required for the Department of Health (DOH) to implement statutory obligations. Insufficient funding will jeopardize public health at large and for vulnerable populations.

Department Testimony: DOH supports HB1800 HD1, in particular where priorities identified in the Governor's Executive Budget Request have been funded at requested levels.

The department's biennium budget request includes new temporary and permanent FTE, as well as trade-off transfer requests which consist of housekeeping adjustments to reduce negative personal services adjustment budget lines and other housekeeping requests to fold in statutorily exempt positions and align the budget to previously acknowledged reorganizations. Federal fund adjustment requests are also being submitted to align the federal budget ceiling with updated actual and anticipated federal fund awards.

DOH's guiding principles include:

- Implementing and maintaining core public health functions, including assessment, policy, and assurance,
- Satisfying federal mandates, including court-ordered settlements,
- Directing resources at problems that pose the greatest risk to the public's health and the environment,
- Dispersing appropriate and cost-effective resources geographically, and

- Providing services of last resort for uninsurable populations and where there is no other satisfactory alternative.

DOH continues to address the health of our State through a combination of population health management and strategic partnerships to address the needs of our most vulnerable populations. We look forward to advancing Hawaii's health agenda through the leveraging of resources and capitalizing on health care reform options which support accessible, affordable, and quality health care.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

STATE OF HAWAII
LAW ENFORCEMENT STANDARDS BOARD
KALANIMOKU BUILDING
1151 PUNCHBOWL STREET, #111B
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

ADRIAN DHAKHWA
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MIKE LAMBERT
VICE-CHAIR

BOARD MEMBERS
SHERRY BIRD
DON FAUMUINA
HARRY KUBOJIRI
ANNE E. LOPEZ
REED MAHUNA
JOHN PELLETIER
JARED REDULLA
JASON REDULLA
GARY SUGANUMA
RUDY TAI
CRAIG TANAKA
RADE VANIC

VICTOR R. MCCRAW
ADMINISTRATOR

March 28, 2026

Chair Donovan M. Dela Cruz
Vice Chair Sharon Y. Moriwaki
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
State Capitol, Conference Room 211
415 S. Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Re: In Support of HB1800, HD1 Relating to the State Budget

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Law Enforcement Standards Board (LESB) submits this testimony in support of HB 1800. This bill relating to the state budget provides funding to the LESB that will allow it to progress towards accomplishing the board's statutory mandates in HRS Chapter 139.

The LESB was created in 2018 and is administratively attached to the Department of the Attorney General. The purpose was to have a board that certifies all law enforcement officers within the State to ensure the highest standards of professionalism, uniformity of standards, and accountability. The LESB's purpose remains just as important today as it did when it was created.

However, the LESB did not receive any significant funding until HB 1800. Currently staffed by only an administrator, Victor McCraw, and with funding in hand, the LESB expects to be able to demonstrate palpable progress towards its statutory mandates. Funding will allow the LESB to hire three full-time employees and purchase sorely needed infrastructure that will go towards tracking law enforcement officer education and training as well as a statewide certification database. If the LESB does not receive sufficient funding, it will be impossible to meet any certification deadlines.

For these reasons, the Hawaii Law Enforcement Standards Board strongly supports HB 1800. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this very important matter.

Sincerely,

/s/ Adrian Dhakhwa
Chair, Hawaii Law Enforcement Standards Board

JOSH GREEN M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR

GARY S. SUGANUMA
DIRECTOR

KRISTEN M.R. SAKAMOTO
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAIʻI
DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION
Ka ʻOihana ʻAuhau
P.O. BOX 259
HONOLULU, HAWAIʻI 96809
PHONE NO: (808) 587-1540
FAX NO: (808) 587-1560

TESTIMONY OF GARY S. SUGANUMA, DIRECTOR OF TAXATION

TESTIMONY ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:
H.B. No. 1800, H.D.1, Relating to the State Budget

BEFORE THE:
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

DATE: Wednesday, April 1, 2026
TIME: 10:00 a.m.
LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 211

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Taxation (DOTAX) supports H.B. 1800, H.D.1, which adjusts and makes supplemental appropriations for the operations and capital improvement projects of the Executive Branch for the fiscal biennium 2025 to 2027.

DOTAX's budget requests include a transfer of funding for the Tax Review Commission from fiscal year (FY) 2026 to FY 2027 and other cost-neutral, but essential, transfers to support the department's operations.

DOTAX notes that H.B. 1800, H.D.1 adds a position and funding for a new permanent Tax Inspector, to be established in the Compliance Division (TAX100/CO). The Tax Inspector position is not one that currently exists in the civil service system, nor is there a civil service exemption for the position. Accordingly, if the intent is for the position to be established and filled immediately, DOTAX recommends that section 76-16, HRS, be amended to exempt the position from civil service. However, if the intent is to create a new civil service position, DOTAX notes it may take some time to establish and fill the position.

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

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

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
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NADINE Y. ANDO
DIRECTOR | KA LUNA HO'OKELE

DEAN I HAZAMA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR | KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

Testimony of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

Before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Monday, April 1, 2026
10:00 a.m.
Conference Room 211 State Capitol & Via Videoconference

On the following measure:
H.B. 1800, H.D.1, RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Nadine Ando, and I am the Director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (Department). The Department supports this bill and provides comments.

The purpose of this bill is to adjust and request appropriations for fiscal biennium 2025-2027 funding requirements for operations and capital improvement projects of Executive Branch agencies and programs.

We appreciate the Committee's time at our budget briefing in January, and we continue to support our submitted budget requests. For the Committee's information, the relevant program appropriations for the Department are on pages 54 to 55 of this measure. The relevant sequences are CCA 102 FA Seq 100-001, CCA 110 DA Seq100-001, CCA 191AA Seq 100-00, CCA 191 AH Seq 102-001, CCA 191 AI Seq 103-001, CCA 901MA Seq 100-001. We respectfully request that the Committee

restore and fully fund the Department's originally requested amounts for fringe benefits for these CCA programs, consistent with the department's budget submittal, to ensure that our authorized positions are fully supported and that we can continue to carry out our statutory responsibilities effectively. Further, since CCA is fully special funded, these restorations do not have any impact on general funds.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII

TIA L. ROBERTS HARTSOCK, MSW, MSCJA
DIRECTOR OF OFFICE OF WELLNESS AND RESILIENCE



STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF WELLNESS AND RESILIENCE
KE KE'ENA KŪPA'A MAULI OLA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
415 S. BERETANIA ST. #415
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

Testimony on H.B. 1800 HD1

RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

March 30, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.; Room Number: 211

The Office of Wellness and Resilience (OWR) **STRONGLY SUPPORTS** H.B. 1800 HD1 Relating to the State Budget and offers comments.

Established in 2022 under Act 291, Session Laws of Hawai'i, as the nation's first statewide-legislated wellness office, OWR carries out our kuleana to strengthen state service systems to create a trauma-informed state. Through training and technical assistance, data and assessment, partnerships and collaboration, and policy and program development, our statewide staff and trainees are currently managing numerous projects and tasks across five strategic priority areas: (1) trauma-informed systems transformation, (2) workforce well-being and secondary trauma prevention, (3) community resilience and disaster mental health, (4) sustainable funding infrastructure, and (5) innovative programs rooted in trauma-informed care. A summary of our recent efforts is included in our 2025 Annual Report, available at https://owr.hawaii.gov/reports/.

The OWR appreciates the opportunity to present our Office's budget requests for two line items.

Program ID: HMS555	**FY27**	0.00 FTE	$297,500
Description of Request 1		Add Other Current Expenditures (OCE) for OWR	

This request would fund the operational costs required to fulfill OWR's legislative mandate under HRS §27-65 and advance our five strategic priorities. Specifically, these funds would support:

- The biannual Hawai‘i Quality of Life and Well-Being Survey and Dashboard in partnership with the University of Hawai‘i (the largest quality of life dataset in state history, with 8,300+ respondents, currently in its 2026 administration);
- Development, dissemination, and management of our Trauma-Informed Care Certification curriculum and Learning Management System;
- Content-specific consultants and subject matter experts for training and technical assistance;
- Facilitation and coordination of the annual Kūpa‘a Mauli Ola Wellness and Resilience Summit that serves as a delivery point for training state employees;
- Interisland travel to deliver training, technical assistance, and supervision support across all four counties; and
- Development of trauma-informed care resource libraries, toolkits, and outreach materials.

Without recurring OCE funding, OWR cannot sustain the core infrastructure that powers these legislatively mandated programs.

Program ID: HMS555	**FY27**	0.00 FTE	$22,080
Description of Request 2		OWR Adjustment for Collective Bargaining Increases	

This request for $22,080 addresses collective bargaining increases for OWR's six positions that were not included in funding provided to the Department of Human Services (DHS), under which OWR's budget is administratively housed. The amount covers both incremental salary adjustments and a one-time collective bargaining payout per employee. These increases were negotiated and approved through the collective bargaining process and have

been funded for comparable positions across other state offices. Providing this adjustment ensures OWR staff receive equitable compensation consistent with employees in similar salary ranges, credentials, and qualifications statewide.

This funding is essential to sustain our core operations: delivering legislatively mandated programs under HRS §27-65, conducting biannual statewide wellness surveys that inform evidence-based policy, and scaling proven interventions across state agencies and Communities.

Without recurring OCE funds, OWR faces critical operational impacts: termination of our research partnership with University of Hawai‘i that powers the Quality of Life Dashboard (now used by policymakers, state and county departments, and community organizations statewide), loss of data collection capabilities that track our 8,300+ survey respondents, and inability to measure progress on legislative mandates. This would effectively dismantle three years of infrastructure development.

The OWR expresses its sincere gratitude for the Legislature's continued support and remains available to address any questions or provide additional information as needed.

Tia L.R. Hartsock, MSW, MSCJA
Director, Office of Wellness & Resilience

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA

HAKIM OUANSAFI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BARBARA E. ARASHIRO
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

IN REPLY PLEASE REFER TO:

26:OED

STATE OF HAWAII
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAI'I
HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY
1002 NORTH SCHOOL STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 17907
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817

Statement of the
Hawaii Public Housing Authority

Before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Wednesday, April 1, 2026
10:00 AM – Room 211, Hawaii State Capitol

In consideration of
HB 1800, HD1
RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

Honorable Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) supports House Bill (HB) 1800, HD1, which adjusts and requests appropriations for fiscal biennium 2025-2027 funding requirements for operations and capital improvement projects of Executive Branch agencies and programs.

HPHA respectfully requests the Committee's support for the following budget adjustment.

HMS 229 – HPHA Administration

Request ID: 229HA-01

Description of Request:
Request to convert $27,840,930 in federal funds currently budgeted as MOF "N" (Federal Funds) to MOF "W" (Revolving Funds) for fiscal year 2027.

Reason for Request:
The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has implemented changes to the operating structure for public housing authorities nationwide. Under this revised structure, administrative costs for public housing programs are no longer funded directly through federal operating subsidies to HMS 229. Instead, administrative funding is generated through program management fees associated with HMS 220 and HMS 222.

Because this federal structural change occurred after the State budget was developed, the State's budget tables still reflect the previous funding mechanism. This request corrects that discrepancy by converting the method of financing so that the State budget will be accurately reflected going forward.

This request does not represent new funding and does not increase the State budget. Rather, it is a technical adjustment to align the State's budget structure with the updated federal funding model and to ensure transparency and accuracy in how federal funds supporting HPHA operations are reflected in the State budget.

HPHA will continue to update its budget tables to ensure that the Legislature has accurate fiscal information for the upcoming biennium.

HPHA CIP

The following HPHA CIP line items were included in the HD1.

9.1 KALIHI VALLEY HOMES RECREATIONAL CENTER, OAHU

PLANS AND DESIGN FOR A RECREATIONAL CENTER AT KALIHI VALLEY HOMES.
TOTAL FUNDING HMS C 1,700 C

The Kalihi Valley Homes Community Center has been closed and unusable for residents for over 10 years due to safety reasons. The HPHA Board approved its demolition in 2024, and the Legislature appropriated a total of $1.2 M that same year to design and construction for the demolition and disposal of the Kalihi Valley Homes Community Center. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) mandated Environmental Assessment (EA) is projected to be completed in August 2026. We are projecting that the HUD Demolition/Disposition approval and permits by the Winter of 2026 and anticipate demolition to start in the Spring/Summer of 2027. Please know that the majority of these timelines are out of the hands of HPHA and that they may change for better or worse depending on the expediency of HUD, DPP, and SHPD. The HPHA planned to request design funds for the new Kalihi Valley Homes Community Center during the 2027 Legislative Session.

9.2 KUHIO PARK TERRACE, OAHU

PLANS, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION FOR REPAIRS TO THE KUHIO PARK TERRACE GYM AND FLOORING.
TOTAL FUNDING HMS C 1,300 C

This funding should be described as Planning and Design only and will be used to remedy the following list of deficiencies at the Kuhio Park Terrace Community Resource Center:

- Gutters have been removed and need to be reinstalled.
- All exterior light fixtures should be replaced with LED and 50% of the lights are not operable.
- 30% of the parking lights are not operable.
- The fire alarm system is not operable.
- Tenant installed security cameras are not functioning, and a building wide security system needs to be installed.
- HVAC system is not operable and needs to be replaced.
- Exhaust fans are not operable in the public restrooms.
- The Fire Sprinkler system needs to be replaced.

- Interior space carpet flooring needs to be replaced.
- Parking lot pavement is cracking, is prone to flooding and needs to be sealed with drainage improvements.
- Gym roll-up doors are damaged and need to be repaired.
- Gym floor is wavy and a new floor needs to be installed.
- New kitchen equipment for the previously planned food preparation program needs to be purchased and installed.
- The metal roof is showing signs of deterioration that may lead to leaks and needs to be replaced.
- The elevator has been having mechanical issues and needs to be refurbished.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony and for your continued commitment to addressing Hawaii's housing needs.

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

KA ʻOIHANA HOʻOMOHALA PĀʻOIHANA, ʻIMI WAIWAI A HOʻOMĀKAʻIKAʻI

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR

JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA
DIRECTOR

DANE K. WICKER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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Statement of
GEORJA SKINNER
Administrator, Creative Industries Division
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Wednesday, April 1, 2026
10:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

In consideration of
HB1800 HD1
RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki and Members of the Committee:

The Creative Industries Division (CID) of the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT) supports HB1800 HD1, which supports the establishment of a dedicated Tax Compliance Coordinator (TCC) leadership position in the Director's Office (BED142) to advance and streamline incentive program management and reporting at a departmental level.

The division fully supports the proposed House adjustment in HB1800, HD1 (Seq.1100-001) to establish and centralize current and future department incentives programs, housed in the DBEDT Director's Office (BED142). This alternative would restore the position we would have lost through trade-off option as originally proposed (Seq. 30-001). We respectfully encourage the committee's favorable review and support of this House adjustment.

Evolving the management of incentives is a necessary step for the department and recognized by the division as an important policy decision. Currently, CID is administering two significant incentive programs representing $55 million in annual State tax expenditures focused on incentivizing key emerging industries for the state; film and technology, HRS 235-17 (Film credit) and HRS 235-110.9 (R&D credit).

The work CID has done, when migrated to the new DBEDT Director's Office level, can benefit from the improvements we've made on data collection and reporting. The division implemented an online registration and reporting portal for film credit filers

which can be adapted to all department-level credit programs, further advancing the state's and department's digital modernization goals.

With bills related to incentives and new reporting responsibilities moving through session, establishing a centralized Tax Compliance Coordinator position provides a leadership role held responsible for compliance procedures across programs, strengthening interagency coordination with the Department of Taxation, the Office of the Auditor, and the Legislature.

CID appreciates the collective support of incentive enhancements this session in both Senate and House which aim to make Hawai'i's economic development incentive programs more competitive.

Mahalo for your consideration and available for any questions.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAI'I EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

STATE OF HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
Ka 'Oihana Mālama Mo'ohelu a Kālā
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96810-0150

SETH S. COLBY, Ph.D.
DIRECTOR

SABRINA NASIR
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT

TESTIMONY BY SETH S. COLBY, Ph.D.
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
ON
HOUSE BILL NO. 1800, H.D. 1

April 1, 2026
10:00 a.m.
Room 211 and Videoconference

RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

The Department of Budget and Finance supports this bill with the inclusion of proposed changes proposed in various Governor's Messages submitted on January 30, 2026; March 2, 2026; and March 24, 2026.

House Bill No. 1800, H.D. 1, is the FY 27 Executive Supplemental Budget bill. It amends Act 250, SLH 2025, to make adjustments to the Executive operating and capital improvement program for FY 27 appropriations to address priority program requirements.

The Administration limited the supplemental budget requests submitted to the Legislature to control the growth of the State budget. This is a key component of our efforts to ensure the State general fund financial plan is sound. The Committee has heard detailed testimony from all of the Executive departments and agencies regarding their limited supplemental budget requests. Departmental staff have also responded to your Committee staff's questions and provided the additional information requested.

The Administration believes that we have sound justification for the supplemental budget requests that have been submitted and urges the Committee to pass the bill with minimal amendments.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
KE KE‘ENA O KE KIA‘ĀINA

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA‘ĀINA

Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Wednesday, April 1, 2026
10:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211 and Videoconference

In Support
House Bill No. 1800, HD1, Relating to the State Budget

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

The Office of the Governor **supports** H.B. No. 1800, HD1, Relating to the State Budget and provides **comments**. This bill adjusts and requests appropriations for fiscal biennium 2025-2027 funding requirements for operations and capital improvement projects of Executive Branch agencies and programs.

The Office of the Governor appreciates the Legislature’s continued focus on strengthening the State’s search and rescue capabilities and supports the intent of H.B. 1800 HD1 House Adjustment GOV100/AA, Seq. 1100-001, to establish a Search and Rescue Coordinator position. However, we do not support the placement of this position within the Office of the Governor. The responsibilities of this position are operational in nature and are more appropriately aligned with agencies that have direct coordination, response, and incident management functions. Placing the position within our office may create inefficiencies, redundancies, or confusion regarding lines of authority and responsibility among existing entities. We respectfully ask the committee to amend the bill by housing the position within an appropriate agency.

Additionally, while the current HD1 version of the State budget bill does not include our operating budget request of $100,000 in non-recurring funds to support gubernatorial transition costs for FY 2027, the request was made pursuant to Section 30-6, Hawai‘i Revised Statutes, which authorizes funding to ensure continuity of executive branch operations and an orderly transition process.

As Hawai‘i navigates ongoing fiscal and operational challenges, continuity within the executive branch remains critical. The Office of the Governor is committed to working collaboratively with the Legislature, state agencies, community partners, and the private sector

to respond to Hawaii's most pressing needs. We value transparency and accessibility and appreciate the Legislature’s continued support as we work together to address the State’s highest priorities.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

STATE OF HAWAII
LAW ENFORCEMENT STANDARDS BOARD
KALANIMOKU BUILDING
1151 PUNCHBOWL STREET, #111B
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

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CRAIG TANAKA
RADE VANIC

VICTOR R. MCCRAW
ADMINISTRATOR

April 1, 2026

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1800, HD1
RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

TO:
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means

FROM:
Victor R. McCraw
Administrator, Hawai‘i Law Enforcement Standards Board

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee:

I submit this testimony in support of HB 1800, HD1 in my capacity as Administrator of the Hawai‘i Law Enforcement Standards Board.

The Law Enforcement Standards Board is administratively attached to the Department of the Attorney General, and the funding reflected in HB 1800, HD1 will allow the Board to begin operational implementation of its statutory responsibilities under chapter 139, Hawai‘i Revised Statutes.

Chapter 139 assigns the Board responsibility for establishing and maintaining statewide law enforcement training and employment standards, administering certification, maintaining a centralized certification system, and supporting certification-related review and action when required. These functions require personnel, operational support, and core technology systems to be conducted in a consistent and defensible manner.

The budget request associated with HB 1800, HD1 includes three new positions necessary for the Board to begin this work. The LESB Administrative Manager, the Law Enforcement Training and Curriculum Coordinator, and the Lead Investigative Agent establish the Board's foundational administrative, training standards, and certification-related investigative capacity. These positions allow the Board to begin building the administrative framework, training standards oversight, and certification review processes required to implement statewide law enforcement standards.

Additionally, this request includes the operational infrastructure necessary to support these functions. This includes a learning management system to support training delivery, tracking, and compliance oversight, and a statewide certification management system to maintain officer certification, training, and employment eligibility records. These systems form the operational backbone required to administer statewide standards and certification.

With these resources in place, the Board will be positioned to begin implementing the statewide framework established by the Legislature and to make measurable progress toward fulfilling its statutory mandates.

For these reasons, the Hawai'i Law Enforcement Standards Board respectfully supports HB 1800, HD1.

Respectfully submitted,



Victor R. McCraw
Administrator, Hawai'i Law Enforcement Standards Board

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIAʻĀINA

KEITH A. REGAN
COMPTROLLER
KA LUNA HOʻOMALU HANA LAULĀ

MEOH-LENG SILLIMAN
DEPUTY COMPTROLLER
KA HOPE LUNA HOʻOMALU HANA LAULĀ

STATE OF HAWAIʻI | KA MOKUʻĀINA O HAWAIʻI
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES | KA ʻOIHANA LOIHELU A LAWELAWE LAULĀ
P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

WRITTEN TESTIMONY
OF
KEITH A. REGAN, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

H.B. 1800 H.D.1

APRIL 1, 2026, 10:00 AM
CONFERENCE ROOM 211 AND VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE, STATE CAPITOL

RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill (H.B.) 1800, H.D. 1, Relating to the State Budget, which adjusts and requests appropriations for fiscal biennium 2025-2027 funding requirements for operations and capital improvement projects of Executive Branch agencies and programs.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) **supports** the Governor's executive budget. We are seeking funding for critical needs in support of our goal to provide quality and consistency in the delivery of essential support services to other State departments and agencies. The following are highlights of our approved budget requests and requested amendments:

I. Operating Budget – DAGS appreciates that HB1800 HD1 concurred with the request items as included the Governor's executive budget and provided additional funding adjustments.

II. CIP Budget - DAGS appreciates the inclusion of $30,500,000 in general obligation bond funding in FY 27 for Lump Sum Maintenance of existing facilities, statewide, in the Governor's executive budget. However, HB1800 HD1 did not concur with the force lapse request to change the means of finance from general funds to general obligation bond funds in the amount of $10.5 million to fully fund this request at $30,500,000 in FY 27.

DAGS respectfully requests the Committee's consideration of this CIP request item as submitted in the Governor's executive budget, as it will improve our capacity to support the maintenance and upgrade of public facilities and sites across the state.

Lastly, while not included in the Governor's executive budget and although FIN assigned AGS820 as the Hawaii Broadband Office program identification, DAGS requests that the Hawaii Broadband Office program budget be transferred into its own Program ID (AGS-895/AH, as already created by the Department of Budget and Finance). This change would ensure that the Hawaii Broadband Office is properly reflected as an administratively attached agency and ensure accurate representation within the department's budget structure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

MAKALAPUA ALENCASTRE, ED. D.
CHAIRPERSON

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION
('AHA KULA HO'ĀMANA)
http://CharterCommission.Hawaii.Gov
1164 Bishop Street, Suite 1100, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Tel: (808) 586-3775 Fax: (808) 586-3776

FOR:	HB 1800 HD1 RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET
DATE:	April 1, 2026
TIME:	10:00 A.M.
COMMITTEE:	Committee on Ways & Means
ROOM:	Conference Room 211 & Videoconference
FROM:	Ed H. Noh, Ed. D., Executive Director State Public Charter School Commission

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwake and members of the Committee:

The State Public Charter School Commission ("Commission") appreciates the opportunity to offer testimony in **SUPPORT of HB 1800 HD1** which adjusts and makes supplemental appropriations for the operations and capital improvement projects of Executive Branch agencies and programs for the fiscal biennium 2025-2027.

The Commission humbly requests the committee's consideration of our primary budget request- additional funding in the amount of **$435,000** to cover the full cost of the collectively bargained teacher differentials for Hard-to-Staff and Hawaiian Immersion charter school teachers. Act 164, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022, allocated $2,000,000 for the teacher differentials. However, the actual cost of the differentials has exceeded that initial allocation; for the FY2025-2026 fiscal year, the amount of **$2,431,000** was paid out to the seventeen charter schools eligible for the Hard-to-Staff and Hawaiian Immersion differentials.

The Commission appreciates the committee's consideration of this request as we are aware of the challenges facing Hawai'i due to the impact of the recent natural disasters at home and the current geo-political situation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

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

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA

STATE OF HAWAIʻI | KA MOKUʻĀINA ʻO HAWAIʻI
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
KA ʻOIHANA KUMUWAIWAI ʻĀINA
P.O. BOX 621
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DAWN N.S. CHANG
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

RYAN K.P. KANAKAʻOLE
FIRST DEPUTY

CIARA W.K. KAHAHANE
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
RYAN K.P. KANAKAʻOLE
Acting Chairperson

Before the Senate Committee on
WAYS AND MEANS

Wednesday, April 1, 2026
10:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1800, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

House Bill 1800, House Draft 1 proposes to adjust and request appropriations for fiscal biennium 2025-2027 funding requirements for operation and capital improvement projects of Executive Branch agencies and programs. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this bill.**

Operating Budget:

The Department respectfully requests your favorable consideration of amendments to this measure to incorporate the Department's recommendations pertaining to HB1800, HD1. The Department's recommendations are attached hereto for your review and consideration.

- LNR HB1800, HD1 Impact Statement - Operating
- LNR FY27 Green Fee Impact Statement - Operating

The Department further provides clarification on the adjustments reflected in House Draft 1, as set forth below:

LNR401 SEQ #1100-001

A new special fund appropriation account was established for the Ocean Stewardship Special Fund to ensure that all expenditures and encumbrances are properly charged to the appropriate funding source and purpose, consistent with the original legislative intent of Act 46, SLH 2021. Accordingly, the Department requests that the ceiling increase be reflected on appropriation account S-381 rather than S-341.

OP/ CIP	ProgID	SubOrg	Seq# (OP) Item # (CIP)	Description of Request	MOF	House Draft 1						Description of Change in HD1
						FY26			FY27			
						Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	
OP	LNR401	CA	1100-001	House Adjustment: Ceiling increase for the Ocean Stewardship Special Fund (S-341)	B						400,000	Increase Special Fund ceiling

LNR401 SEQ #1070-001

The adjustments should be attributed to Program ID LNR906, as Position No. 118784 is assigned to and budgeted under LNR906. The Department therefore requests alignment of the adjustments with the same Program ID to ensure consistency and accuracy in budgeting and reporting.

OP/ CIP	ProgID	SubOrg	Seq# (OP) Item # (CIP)	Description of Request	MOF	House Draft 1						Description of Change in HD1
						FY26			FY27			
						Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	
OP	LNR401	CA	1070-001	House Adjustment: Change MOF from P to N (.50 FTE), Temp Accountant IV, Position #118784	N					0.50	58,233	Change means of financing (MOF) from P to N for Position #118784 (.50 FTE) Accountant IV
OP	LNR401	CA	1070-001	House Adjustment: Change MOF from P to N (.50 FTE), Temp Accountant IV, Position #118784	P					(0.50)	(58,233)	Change means of financing (MOF) from P to N for Position #118784 (.50 FTE) Accountant IV

LNR906 SEQ #1010-001and 1010-002

The Department requests to abolish Position Nos. 13332 and 118680 and establish two (2) new Accountant V positions with new position numbers. As both positions were authorized at the Accountant V level under Act 230, SLH 2024, the Department requests retention of this classification.

The following pseudo numbers are provided for reference and use:

- Pseudo No. 97070C – Accountant V
- Pseudo No. 97071C – Accountant V

OP/ CIP	ProgID	SubOrg	Seq# (OP) Item # (CIP)	Description of Request	MOF	House Draft 1						Description of Change in HD1
						FY26			FY27			
						Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	
OP	LNR906	AA	1010-001	House Adjustment: Trade-off positions and funds for two (2) perm Forestry & Wildlife Worker II BU3 to two (2) Accountant IV BU13, Pos #13332 and #118680)	A				(2.00)		(110,400)	Trade-off two (2) BU3 positions to two (2) BU13 positions (cost-neutral)
OP	LNR906	AA	1010-002	House Adjustment: Trade-off positions and funds for two (2) perm Forestry & Wildlife Worker II BU3 to two (2) Accountant IV BU13, Pos #13332 and #118680)	A				2.00		110,400	Trade-off two (2) BU3 positions to two (2) BU13 positions (cost-neutral)

The Department sincerely appreciates the House's inclusion of this adjustment. This will allow the Department to align position classifications with the actual fiscal and accounting responsibilities required to support the department's operations. Approval of this request will enable the Department to fully utilize existing funding, ensure compliance with personnel and collective bargaining requirements, and strengthen the department's fiscal management capacity. This request results in no net increase in positions or costs and allows the Department to make effective use of existing resources (budgeted funds) by replacing dormant positions with operational ones.

In addition, the Department submits the following items for your review and consideration as part of this testimony. The following budget request is proposed to update the amounts requested in the operating budget set forth in Governor's Message No. 6. A copy of the transmittal of Governor's Message No. 6 is attached for your reference.

LNR 806: Parks Administration

- Request one-time increase in expenditure ceiling of the State Parks Special Fund, Appropriation Account S-312 to fund land management activities, including hazardous materials remediation, debris removal, tree trimming, enforcement, and other related activities necessary to ensure public health and safety on managed state-owned lands, $3,000,000, MOF B.

Capital Improvement Program Budget:

The Department respectfully requests that this measure be amended to include all projects as indicated in HB1800 and Governor's Messages Nos. 2, 5, and 6. The following are attached for your reference:

- List of the Department's CIP requests
- HB1800, HD1 Impact Statement – CIP

Governor's Message (GM) No. 5 reflects a significant Department priority:

- LNR101: Public Lands Management
  Public Land Acquisition, Oʻahu

  - Add $14,000,000 in general obligation (G.O.) bond funds in FY 27 for land acquisition to acquire the approximately 132-acre property formerly occupied by Hawaii Pacific University's Hawaiʻi Loa Campus (HPU) to consolidate the DLNR divisions currently leasing space around Oahu and to support other DLNR programs.

  - Amend Section 7 of House Bill No. 1800 (Senate Bill No. 2500) to lapse $14,000,000 in G.O. bond funds for the FY 25 appropriation for Public Land Acquisition and Improvements, Oʻahu, Item No. K-5.1 of Act 164, SLH 2023, as amended by Act 230, SLH 2024.

Additionally, HB1800 includes a CIP request to support the above GM request:

- LNR906: LNR-Natural and Physical Environment (Office of the Chairperson)
  Hawai‘i Pacific University Hawai‘i Loa Campus (HPU) Acquisition and Renovation, O‘ahu

  - Add $4,000,000 in general obligation (G.O.) bond funds for supplemental planning/design and land acquisition for the above land acquisition.

Although the Department has worked diligently to acquire this property, unanticipated delays in approvals under the restrictive covenant, right of entry, and due diligence requirements have prevented the funds from being expended within the two-year timeframe.

This purchase remains urgently needed. DLNR divisions are currently operating from temporary structures and short-term lease arrangements, and the lack of adequate facilities and infrastructure limits the Department's ability to carry out its mission and protect critically endangered species in its care.

The HPU campus would provide a safe, storm-hardened facility for the State's most critically endangered tree snails and rare plant seeds, as well as the training and accommodation space needed for the DOCARE Academy. It would also support broader Department needs, including space for divisions and University of Hawai‘i partners involved in watershed partnership and invasive species management, particularly as DLNR prepares to expand its resources to support green fee-funded initiatives.

The Department offers the following, additional comments:

- The Department's mission is to enhance protect, conserve, and manage Hawai‘i's unique and limited natural, cultural, and historic resources held in public trust for current and future generations of the people of Hawai‘i nei, and its visitors, in partnership with others from public and private sectors.

- Projects were selected and prioritized based on wildfire recovery, public safety, compliance, and public trust resource protection, in accordance with statutory mandates that guide the Department's vision, mission, goals and objectives to manage resources for the benefit of the public, and to protect the resources and the public.

Operating and CIP Budget Requests – Green Fee:

The Department respectfully requests your support for requests associated with the Green Fee proposal. These requests will provide critical resources to support the protection, management, and maintenance of Hawai‘i's natural and cultural resources impacted by increasing visitor use.

Funding generated through the Green Fee will help enhance resource stewardship, improve the maintenance of state-managed lands and facilities, and ensure the long-term sustainability of these areas for residents and visitors alike.

The Department appreciates your consideration and respectfully requests your support. Mahalo for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

FY 27 SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET
HB1800 HD1 IMPACT STATEMENT - OPERATING
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

OP/CIP	ProgID	SubOrg	Seq# (OP) Item # (CIP)	Description of Request	MOF	GOV Budget						House Draft						Description of Change in HD1	Impact of Change	Priority to Restore (1 = highest priority to restore funding to GOV budget)	Alternative Reduction for Any Opposed Reductions
						FY26			FY27			FY26			FY27						
						Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$				
OP	LNR101	EA	302-001	Governor's Message: Add $7,000,000 in special fund to increase the expenditure ceiling for land management activities that include hazardous material remediation , debris removal, and tree trimming (non-recurring)	B						7,000,000						7,000,000	No change			
OP	LNR172	DA	100-001	Federal fund Ceiling Adjustment	P						200,000						200,000	No change			
OP	LNR172	DA	130-001	Green Fee - Strengthening public safety measures throughout Hawaii's state forest reseerves (non-recurring)	A						513,677						513,677	No change			
OP	LNR172	DA	1100-001	**House Adjustment:** Funds for hazardous tree assessment and removal	A						-						175,000	Add $175,000 for tree assessment and removal contracts			
OP	LNR401	CA	60-001	Federal fund Ceiling Adjustment	N						(139,500)						(139,500)	No change			
OP	LNR401	CA	100-001	Federal fund Ceiling Adjustment	P						116,466						116,466	No change			
OP	LNR401	CA	101-001	Increase ceiling for Personal Services: Position #122913 OA III was reallocated to OA IV.	B						11,367						11,367	No change			
OP	LNR401	CA	102-001	Add position and funds for Program Specialist V (License and Revenue) (Salary $37,326, Fringe $22,396)	B				1.00		59,722				1.00		59,722	Add technical note: 6 month delay in hire			
OP	LNR401	CA	130-001	Green Fee - Watershed coordination and restoration for reef resilience (non-recurring)	A						750,000						750,000	No change			
OP	LNR401	CA	130-002	Green Fee - Kauai coral restoration program (non-recurring)	A						500,000						500,000	No change			
OP	LNR401	CA	130-003	Green Fee - Supporting community driven, marine resources resiliency planning (Holomua Inititative) (non-recurring)	A						550,000						550,000	No change			
OP	LNR401	CA	130-004	Green Fee - Community led marine debris clean-up (non-recurring)	A						250,000						250,000	No change			
OP	LNR401	CA	130-005	Green Fee - Supporting the resilience of Hawaii's coral reefs through coral restoration (non-recurring)	A						250,000						250,000	No change			
OP	LNR401	CA	130-006	Green Fee - Support ocean monitoring for coral reefs, nearshore fisheries resources and water quality, to support effective management (non-recurring)	A						1,255,000						1,255,000	No change			
OP	LNR401	CA	130-007	Green Fee - Fishpond ama'ama production (non-recurring)	A						150,000						150,000	No change			
OP	LNR401	CA	130-008	Green Fee - Establish Hawaiian plant nursery in key restoration areas statewide (non-recurring)	A						250,000						250,000	No change	DLNR respectfully requests that this project be assigned to LNR402, as it aligns more appropriately with DOFAW's program responsibilities and operational oversight. Assigning the project to LNR402 will ensure proper administration, accountability, and effective implementation.		
OP	LNR401	CA	130-009	Green Fee - Na Manu 'Eleele Makai (Environmental Ambassador Program) (non-recurring)	A						1,250,000						1,250,000	No change			
OP	LNR401	CA	130-010	Green Fee - Regulatory and interpretive signage plan and implementation (non-recurring)	A						500,000						500,000	No change			
OP	LNR401	CA	130-011	Green Fee - Protecting communities from wave energy and storm surge by maintaining natural coral reef breakwaters (non-recurring)	A						980,000						980,000	No change			

FY 27 SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET
HB1800 HD1 IMPACT STATEMENT - OPERATING
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

OP/CIP	ProgID	SubOrg	Seq# (OP) Item # (CIP)	Description of Request	MOF	GOV Budget						House Draft						Description of Change in HD1	Impact of Change	Priority to Restore (1 = highest priority to restore funding to GOV budget)	Alternative Reduction for Any Opposed Reductions
						FY26			FY27			FY26			FY27						
						Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$				
OP	LNR401	CA	1070-001	**House Adjustment:** Change MOF from P to N (.50 FTE), Temp Accountant IV, Position #118784	N						-					0.50	58,233	Change means of financing (MOF) from P to N for Position #118784 (.50 FTE) Accountant IV	DLNR sincerely appreciates the inclusion of this adjustment and respectfully requests that the Prog ID be corrected from LNR401 to LNR906. Sequence #1070-001 was assigned to an incorrect Program ID. Position #118784 is budgeted under LNR906, not LNR401. If not corrected, this discrepancy will result in inaccuracies in budget tracking, potential compliance concerns, and improper allocation of personnel costs. Updating the adjustment to reflect the correct Program ID will ensure proper funding alignment and maintain the integrity of financial reporting.	N/A	
OP	LNR401	CA	1070-001	**House Adjustment:** Change MOF from P to N (.50 FTE), Temp Accountant IV, Position #118784	P						-					(0.50)	(58,233)	Change means of financing (MOF) from P to N for Position #118784 (.50 FTE) Accountant IV	DLNR sincerely appreciates the inclusion of this adjustment and respectfully requests that the Prog ID be corrected from LNR401 to LNR906. Sequence #1070-001 was assigned to an incorrect Program ID. Position #118784 is budgeted under LNR906, not LNR401. If not corrected, this discrepancy will result in inaccuracies in budget tracking, potential compliance concerns, and improper allocation of personnel costs. Updating the adjustment to reflect the correct Program ID will ensure proper funding alignment and maintain the integrity of financial reporting.	N/A	
OP	LNR401	CA	1100-001	**House Adjustment:** Ceiling increase for the Ocean Stewardship Special Fund (S-341)	B						-						400,000	Increase Special Fund ceiling			
OP	LNR401	CA	1101-001	**House Adjustment:** Ceiling increase for the Sports Fish Special Fund (S-348)	B						-						331,519	Increase Special Fund ceiling			
OP	LNR401	CA	1102-001	**House Adjustment:** funds for facility operating and programmatic support	A						-						5,600,000	Adds funds for operations.			
OP	LNR401	CA	1103-001	**House Adjustment:** funds for vehicle and vessel purchase (non-recurring)	A						-						400,000	Add funds for vehicle and vessel purchase			
OP	LNR401	CA	1104-001	**House Adjustment:** Ceiling increase for the Ecosystem Protection Special Fund (S-341)	B						-						100,000	Increase Special Fund ceiling			
OP	LNR401	CA	1105-001	**House Adjustment:** Add position and funds for ecosystem protection and restoration	A										16.00		1,088,712	Add sixteen (16) permanent positions: (7) Aquatic Biologist V (1) General Cons & Maintenance (1) Building and Maintenance Worker (1) Administrative Specialist (1) Aquatic Education Specialist (5) Aquatic Biologist III			
OP	LNR402	DB	10-001	Trade-off funds from Other Current Expenses to Personal Services for position #118212	A						44,910						44,910	House technical adjustment: Change Forester V to Forest Management Supervisor I			

FY 27 SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET
HB1800 HD1 IMPACT STATEMENT - OPERATING
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

						GOV Budget						House Draft									
						FY26			FY27			FY26			FY27						
OP/CIP	ProgID	SubOrg	Seq# (OP) Item # (CIP)	Description of Request	MOF	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Description of Change in HD1	Impact of Change	Priority to Restore (1 = highest priority to restore funding to GOV budget)	Alternative Reduction for Any Opposed Reductions
OP	LNR402	DA	10-002	Trade-off funds from Other Current Expenses to Personal Services for position #118212	A						(44,910)						(44,910)	House technical adjustment: Change Forester V to Forest Management Supervisor I			
OP	LNR402	DA	70-001	Change MOF from P to A (.50 FTE) Position #118212, Forester V **NOTE:** Refer to Trade-Off, Priority Numbers 1A and 1B. Funds coming from OCE.	A				0.50		-				0.50		-	House technical adjustment: Change Forester V to Forest Management Supervisor I			
OP	LNR402	DB	70-001	Change MOF from P to A (.50 FTE) Position #118212, Forester V **NOTE:** Refer to Trade-Off, Priority Numbers 1A and 1B. Funds coming from OCE.	P				(0.50)		(71,856)				(0.50)		(71,856)	House technical adjustment: Change Forester V to Forest Management Supervisor I			
OP	LNR402	DA	100-001	Federal fund Ceiling Adjustment	N						850,923						850,923	No change			
OP	LNR402	DB	101-001	Federal fund Ceiling Adjustment	P						5,562,554						5,562,554	No change			
OP	LNR402	DA	102-001	Add 6 positions (.50 FTE each) for the Non-Game Grant: (2) Wildlife Biologist IV, SR 22; (1) Natural Resources Mgt. Spec. III, SR 20 and (3) Forestry & Wildlife Technician IV Add: 60% Fringe Benefits	N					3.00	135,749					3.00	135,749	House technical adjustment: Add note six-month delay in hire			
OP	LNR402	DA	130-001	Green Fee - West Maui Climate Modelling (non-recurring)	A						500,000						500,000	No change			
OP	LNR402	DA	130-002	Green Fee - Hawaii wildfire risk reduction program/firewise (non-recurring)	A						6,000,000						6,000,000	No change			
OP	LNR402	DA	130-003	Green Fee -Endangered forest bird mosquito abatement (non-recurring)	A						1,600,000						1,600,000	No change			
OP	LNR402	DA	130-004	Green Fee - Native bird protection (non-recurring)	A						1,600,000						1,600,000	No change			
OP	LNR404	GC	130-001	Green Fee - Funding to update the hawaii Drought Plan (non-recurring)	A						250,000						250,000	No change			
OP	LNR404	GC	130-002	Green Fee - Funding to update the Hawaii Water Conservation Plan (non-recurring)	A						250,000						250,000	No change			
OP	LNR405	HA	130-001	Green Fee - Fostering effective marine resource enforcement through Makai Watch community partnerships (non-recurring)	A						2,500,000						2,500,000	No change			
OP	LNR405	HA	130-002	Green Fee - Makai Watch program expansion (non-recurring)	A						360,916						360,916	No change			
OP	LNR405	HA	1100-001	**House Adjustment:** Add position and funds for one (1) Program Specialist V	A						-				1.00		71,016	Add position and funds for one (1) Program Specialist V			
OP	LNR407	NA	100-001	Conversion of eighteen (18) unbudgeted positions, funded with existing federal grants (add 60% Fringe benefits)	P					15	1,517,510					15.00	1,517,510	No change			
OP	LNR407	NA	101-001	Federal fund Ceiling Adjustment	P						430,000						430,000	No change			
OP	LNR407	NA	130-001	Green Fee - Climate resilience crews (non-recurring)	A						3,000,000						3,000,000	No change			
OP	LNR407	NA	130-002	Green Fee - Indigenous climate infrastructure - Waipio (non-recurring)	A						500,000						500,000	No change			
OP	LNR407	NA	130-003	Green Fee - Public-private watershed management statewide (non-recurring)	A						1,000,000						1,000,000	No change			
OP	LNR407	NA	130-004	Green Fee - PIA natural area reserve native forest restoration project (non-recurring)	A						140,000						140,000	No change			
OP	LNR407	NA	130-005	Green Fee - Conservation corps for community partnership and workforce capacity development for Green Jobs and climate resiliency (non-recurring)	A						1,250,000						1,250,000	No change			
OP	LNR407	NA	130-006	Green Fee -Plant extinction preventoon program (non-recurring)	A						300,000						300,000	No change			

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OP/CIP	ProgID	SubOrg	Seq# (OP) Item # (CIP)	Description of Request	MOF	GOV Budget						House Draft						Description of Change in HD1	Impact of Change	Priority to Restore (1 = highest priority to restore funding to GOV budget)	Alternative Reduction for Any Opposed Reductions
						FY26			FY27			FY26			FY27						
						Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$				
OP	LNR407	NA	130-007	Green Fee -Endangered plant seed banking (non-recurring)	A						450,000						450,000	No change			
OP	LNR407	NA	130-008	Green Fee - Maui Nui endangered species predator control (non-recurring)	A						436,464						436,464	No change			
OP	LNR407	NA	130-009	Green Fee - Expanding invasive plant control in Molokai core watershed areas (non-recurring)	A						150,000						150,000	No change			
OP	LNR407	NA	130-010	Green Fee - Kuia ans Honopu trail improvement (non-recurring)	A						250,000						250,000	No change			
OP	LNR801	CH	100-001	Ceiling increase to procure trucks/trailers/passenger vehicles, statewide (non-recurring)	B						250,000						250,000	No change			
OP	LNR801	CH	101-001	Ceiling increase to procure a vessel, non-recurring.	B						150,000						150,000	No change			
OP	LNR801	CH	102-001	Ceiling increase for postponed maintenance and repair projects to prevent further deterioration and increased future costs at Small Boat Harbors, statewide (non-recurring)	B						5,000,000						5,000,000	No change			
OP	LNR804	DA	10-001	Trade off from Other Current Expenditures (OCE) to redescribe Position/Pseudo# 92369C from Abstractor X to Assistant Administrator, EM 07	A						47,223						47,223	House technical modification: To accurately reflect original position being redescribed			
OP	LNR804	DA	10-002	Trade off from Other Current Expenditures (OCE) to redescribe Position/Pseudo# 92369C from Abstractor X to Assistant Administrator, EM 07	A						(47,223)						(47,223)	House technical modification: To accurately reflect original position being redescribed			
OP	LNR804	DA	100-001	Federal fund Ceiling Adjustment	N						853,103						853,103	No change			
OP	LNR804	DA	101-001	Add 6 positions (.50 FTE each) for the Non-Game Grant: (2) Wildlife Biologist IV, SR 22; (1) Natural Resources Mgt. Spec. III, SR 20 and (3) Forestry & Wildlife Technician IV Add: 60% Fringe Benefits	N					3.00	135,749					3.00	135,749	House technical adjustment: Add note six-month delay hire			
OP	LNR804	DA	130-001	Green Fee - Na Manu Elele staewide land stewardship program (non-recurring)	A						1,000,000						1,000,000	No change			
OP	LNR806	FA	10-001	Transfer in funds from Other Current Expenditures (OCE) to Personal Services to fund twenty-seven (27) new permanent positions	A						(1,646,640)						(1,646,640)	No change			
OP	LNR806	FA	10-002	Transfer out funds from Other Current Expenditures (OCE) to Personal Services to fund twenty-seven (27) new permanent positions	A				27.00		1,646,640				27.00		1,646,640	No change			
OP	LNR810	GD	100-001	Increase expenditure ceiling for S-323 for the redescription of the Office Assistant III (#119210) to Procurement & Supply Specialist I to provide technical support to the Flood Control/Dam Safety Section.	B						23,271						23,271	House technical modification: To accurately reflect original position being redescribed			
OP	LNR810	GD	101-001	Increase expenditure ceiling for S-323 to provide supplemental funds for Other Current Expenditures in order to support the Special Fund Assessment (SFA) and program positions and activities.	B						74,000						74,000	No change			
OP	LNR810	GD	130-001	Green Fee - Upgrade and modernize the Hawaii Flood Hazard Assessment Tool (FHAT), a web-based GIS flood map viewer for the State of Hawaii (non-recuring	A						300,000						300,000	No change			
OP	LNR906	AA	100-001	Conversion of eighteen (18) unbudgeted positions, funded with existing federal grants (Add 60% Fringe benefits)	P					3.00	318,355					3.00	318,355	No change			

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HB1800 HD1 IMPACT STATEMENT - OPERATING
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

OP/CIP	ProgID	SubOrg	Seq# (OP) Item # (CIP)	Description of Request	MOF	GOV Budget						House Draft						Description of Change in HD1	Impact of Change	Priority to Restore (1 = highest priority to restore funding to GOV budget)	Alternative Reduction for Any Opposed Reductions
						FY26			FY27			FY26			FY27						
						Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$				
OP	LNR906	AA	101-001	Add ceiling to the Red Hill Remediation Special Fund (S-379)	B						2,000,000						5,500,000	Ceiling is non-recurring	DLNR concurs with the ceiling increase amount and notes that a recurring ceiling is necessary to support ongoing and essential program operations. Establishing a recurring ceiling will ensure stability, maintain service levels, and support accurate and responsible long-term financial planning.		
OP	LNR906	AA	130-001	Green Fee - Loko I'a Resilience Program (non-recurring)	A						162,250						162,250	No change			
OP	LNR906	AA	130-002	Green Fee - Support community based ahupua'a restoration, statewide (non-recurring)	A						10,560,000						10,560,000	No change	DLNR respectfully requests that this project be assigned to LNR407, as it aligns more appropriately with DOFAW's program responsibilities and operational oversight. Assigning the project to LNR407 will ensure proper administration, accountability, and effective implementation.		
OP	LNR906	AA	130-003	Green Fee - Supporting community co-management for coral reef resilience(non-recurring)	A						5,750,000						5,750,000	No change	DLNR respectfully requests that this project be assigned to LNR401, as it aligns more appropriately with DAR's program responsibilities and operational oversight. Assigning the project to LNR401 will ensure proper administration, accountability, and effective implementation.		
OP	LNR906	AA	130-004	Green Fee - Supporting community driven coral and coastal restoration initiatives for coastal resilience and storm protection (non-recurring)	A						1,500,000						1,500,000	No change	DLNR respectfully requests that this project be assigned to LNR401, as it aligns more appropriately with DAR's program responsibilities and operational oversight. Assigning the project to LNR401 will ensure proper administration, accountability, and effective implementation.		
OP	LNR906	AA	130-005	Green Fee - Restore wetlands, anchialine ponds, and riparian zones with community partners, for flood control, habitat improvement, and coastal resiliency (non-recurring)	A						1,500,000						1,500,000	No change	DLNR respectfully requests that this project be assigned to LNR402, as it aligns more appropriately with DOFAW's program responsibilities and operational oversight. Assigning the project to LNR402 will ensure proper administration, accountability, and effective implementation.		
OP	LNR906	AA	130-006	Green Fee - Restore fishponds statewide and revive traditional aquaculture production with community partners (non-recurring)	A						1,000,000						1,000,000	No change	DLNR respectfully requests that this project be assigned to LNR401, as it aligns more appropriately with DAR's program responsibilities and operational oversight. Assigning the project to LNR401 will ensure proper administration, accountability, and effective implementation.		
OP	LNR906	AA	130-007	Green Fee - Support coastal ecosystem restoration to improve coastal resilience to storms, floods, and climate disasters (non-recurring)	A						2,250,000						2,250,000	No change	DLNR respectfully requests that this project be assigned to LNR402, as it aligns more appropriately with DOFAW's program responsibilities and operational oversight. Assigning the project to LNR402 will ensure proper administration, accountability, and effective implementation.		
OP	LNR906	AA	130-008	Green Fee - Community partnerships for invasive species control and capacity (non-recurring)	A						5,000,000						5,000,000	No change	DLNR respectfully requests that this project be assigned to LNR402, as it aligns more appropriately with DOFAW's program responsibilities and operational oversight. Assigning the project to LNR402 will ensure proper administration, accountability, and effective implementation.		

FY 27 SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET
HB1800 HD1 IMPACT STATEMENT - OPERATING
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

OP/CIP	ProgID	SubOrg	Seq# (OP) Item # (CIP)	Description of Request	MOF	GOV Budget						House Draft						Description of Change in HD1	Impact of Change	Priority to Restore (1 = highest priority to restore funding to GOV budget)	Alternative Reduction for Any Opposed Reductions
						FY26			FY27			FY26			FY27						
						Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$				
OP	LNR906	AA	130-009	Green Fee - Monitoring and evaluation for the environmental stewardship project portfolio	A						500,000						-	House does not concur. Consolidate to B&F			
OP	LNR906	AA	1010-001	**House Adjustment:** Trade-off positions and funds for two (2) perm Forestry & Wildlife Worker II BU3 to two (2) Accountant IV BU13, Pos #13332 and #118680)	A						-				(2.00)		(110,400)	Trade-off two (2) BU3 positions to two (2) BU13 positions (cost-neutral)	DLNR sincerely appreciates the House's inclusion of this adjustment. This adjustment will allow DLNR to align position classifications with the actual fiscal and accounting responsibilities required to support the department's operations. Approval of this request will enable DLNR to fully utilize existing funding, ensure compliance with personnel and collective bargaining requirements, and strengthen the department's fiscal management capacity. This request results in <u>no</u> net increase in positions or costs and allows DLNR to make effective use of existing resources (budgeted funds), and replacing dormant	N/A	
OP	LNR906	AA	1010-002	**House Adjustment:** Trade-off positions and funds for two (2) perm Forestry & Wildlife Worker II BU3 to two (2) Accountant IV BU13, Pos #13332 and #118680)	A						-				2.00		110,400	Trade-off two (2) BU3 positions to two (2) BU13 positions (cost-neutral)			

FY 27 SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET
IMPACT STATEMENTS OF SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET REQUESTS RELATED TO THE GREEN FEE - OPERATING
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

						Department's Original Budget Request						GFAC Recommendation via GM2											
						FY26			FY27			FY26			FY27								
OP/CIP	ProgID	SubOrg	Priority (1 = highest)	SeqNo (OP) ItemNo (CIP)	Description of Request	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Description of Change in GM2	Impact of Change	Priority to Restore (1 = highest priority to restore funding to department's original budget request)	Alternative Reduction for Any Opposed Reductions	Amount for Personal Services	Amount for Grants pursuant to Chapter 42F HRS	Comments
OP	LNR172	DA	7		Integrated Forest Defense: Biosecurity Enhancements and Early Threat Detection						932,242						-	Not recommended by GFAC						
OP	LNR172	DA	12	130-001	Green Fee - Strengthening public safety measures throughout Hawaii's state forest reseerves (non-recurring)						1,410,000						513,677	Amount was reduced	The reduction will negatively impact safety and public access by limiting the ability to manage and mitigate	1				
OP	LNR172	DA	18		Advancing Co-Stewardship of Community Forests on Public Land in Response to the Adoption of HCR40						200,000						-	Not recommended by GFAC						
OP	LNR172	DA	30		Kahua Ola: Foundations for Protecting Hawai'i's Native and Endangered Species						605,000						-	Not recommended by GFAC						
OP	LNR172	DA	39		Revitalizing Native Landscapes: Protection and Enhancement of Hawaiian Flora and Habitats						793,000						-	Not recommended by GFAC						
OP	LNR401	CA	4	130-011	Protecting Communities from Wave Energy and Storm Surge by Maintaining Natural Coral Reef Breakwaters						980,000						980,000	No Change						
OP	LNR401	CA	5		West Hawai'i Coral Restoration Program						250,000						-	Not recommended by GFAC						
OP	LNR401	CA	9		Day-use mooring buoy maintenance						350,000						-	Not recommended by GFAC						
OP	LNR401	CA	13	130-001	Watershed coordination and restoration for reef resilience						750,000						750,000	No Change						
OP	LNR401	CA	14		Visitor Engagement with Hawai'i's Marine Wildlife						700,000						-	Not recommended by GFAC						
OP	LNR401	CA	16		Enhanced Biosecurity through Eradication of Aquatic Invasive Species						600,000						-	Not recommended by GFAC						
OP	LNR401	CA	17		Marine Rapid Response						250,000						-	Not recommended by GFAC						
OP	LNR401	CA	21		Pilot Cesspool Conversions in Coral Hotspots						500,000						-	Not recommended by GFAC						
OP	LNR401	CA	22	130-010	Regulatory and Interpretive Signage Plan and Implementation						250,000						500,000	Amount was increased						
OP	LNR401	CA	23	130-004	Community led Marine Debris Clean-up						250,000						250,000	No Change						
OP	LNR401	CA	26		Climate Resilient Fisheries						300,000						-	Not recommended by GFAC						
OP	LNR401	CA	27	130-009	Na Manu Elele Makai (Environmental Ambassador program)						1,000,000						1,250,000	Amount was increased						
OP	LNR401	CA	29		A Collaborative Approach: Hawai'i Emergency Reef Restoration Network (HERR)						950,000						-	Not recommended by GFAC						
OP	LNR401	CA	31		Enhancing Fishing Opportunities through Improved Fish Aggregation Devices						200,000						-	Not recommended by GFAC						
OP	LNR401	CA	35		Kō a Kai Community Partnership Pathway						126,000						-	Not recommended by GFAC						
OP	LNR401	CA	36	130-002	Kauai Coral Restoration Program						500,000						500,000	No Change						
OP	LNR401	CA	43	130-007	Fishpond 'Ama'ama Production						150,000						150,000	No Change						
OP	LNR401	CA	46		Marine Carrying Capacity Projects						500,000						-	Not recommended by GFAC						
OP	LNR401	CA	54	130-003	Community driven, Marine Resources Resiliency Planning (Holomua Initiative)						550,000						550,000	No Change						
OP	LNR401	CA	55		Sustaining Community-Based Biocultural Restoration in He'eia						890,000						-	Not recommended by GFAC						
OP	LNR401	CA	65		Habitat Restoration and Improved Fishing at Waiakea and Wailoa State Recreational Area						500,000						-	Not recommended by GFAC						
OP	LNR401	CA		130-005	Supporting the resilience of Hawaii's coral reefs through coral restoration						-						250,000	Community submitted project						
OP	LNR401	CA		130-006	Support ocean monitoring for coral reefs, nearshore fisheries resources, and water quality, to support effective management.						-						1,255,000	Community submitted project						
OP	LNR401 LNR402/DA	CA		130-008	Establish a Hawaiian plant nursery in key restoration areas statewide						-						250,000	Community submitted project						
OP	LNR402	DA	6		Forest Bird Captive Care						1,529,918						-	Not recommended by GFAC	The impacts would be severe and immediate, and in some cases could lead directly to extinction. This captive care program exists specifically to support species on the brink of disappearing in the wild by maintaining a safeguard population that prevents total species loss. With recent reductions in federal funding, state efforts now represent the primary line of defense against extinction for several species. This program provides a critical buffer against ongoing threats such as avian malaria and climate change.	2				If this is not funded Impact are severe and immediate, and in some cases could lead directly to extinction. This captive care program exisits specifically for species that are on the brink of disappearing in the wild. To maintain
OP	LNR402	DA	8		Biological Control of Forest Weeds and Pests						250,000						-	Not recommended by GFAC						
OP	LNR402	DA	10		Little Fire Ant Control and Containment Through Maui Invasive Species Committee						500,000						-	Not recommended by GFAC	The impact would be more LFA detections in Maui County being left unmanaged.	3				
OP	LNR402	DA	25		Wildfire Reduction and Ecosystem Benefits at Kawai'ele Waterbird Sanctuary and Mānā Extension, Kaua'i						197,417						-	Not recommended by GFAC						

OP	LNR402	DA	37		Integrated Pest Management Using IIT and BTi to Protect Native Forest Birds by Controlling Mosquitoes and Avian Malaria						1,000,000						-	Not recommended by GFAC	Impacts include the continued spread of avian malaria among rare forest birds, leading to eventual population collapse. Without adequate funding, extinction trajectories become effectively irreversible. Available management tools can help protect forest birds from contracting avian malaria, which causes 90–100% mortality in highly susceptible honeycreepers.	4				
OP	LNR402	DA	40		Mauna Kea Forest Restoration						250,000						-	Not recommended by GFAC	Impacts would include declining habitat quality, worsening disease pressures, increased dominance of invasive species, and elevated extinction risk for multiple species. This project is not simply about restoring trees; it is essential to maintaining one of the last functional strongholds of Hawaiian forest biodiversity.	5				
OP	LNR402	DA	41		Hawaii Invasive Species Council - Competitive Grant Process for Interagency Projects and Programs						2,000,000						-	Not recommended by GFAC	Impact includes fewer resources available for research and management of prioritized invasive species such as CRB, LFA, and coqui throughout the state.	7				
OP	LNR402	DA	44	130-003	Endangered Forest Bird Mosquito Abatement						1,600,000						1,600,000	No Change						
OP	LNR402	DA	48		Supplementing Palila Recovery Actions Through Rear and Release						250,000						-	Not recommended by GFAC	Rear-and-release is one of the few tools capable of immediately increasing population trajectories, rather than merely slowing their decline. Reductions in this effort would have significant impacts on a species that now persists only on Mauna Kea.	10				
OP	LNR402	DA	49		Integrated Acoustic and Point Count Monitoring of Maui Forest Birds to Evaluate Mosquito Suppression Techniques						465,000						-	Not recommended by GFAC	The impact would be an inability to effectively measure the success of mosquito suppression efforts, limiting the capacity to demonstrate outcomes or identify and correct failures on the island of Maui.	12				
OP	LNR402	DA	51		Kawainui Levee Flood Hazard Abatement						950,000						-	Not recommended by GFAC						
OP	LNR402	DA	52		Threatened and Endangered Seabird Colony Management and Recovery on Kaua'i						353,653						-	Not recommended by GFAC	Impacts include the continued spread of avian malaria among rare forest birds, leading to eventual population collapse. Without adequate funding, extinction trajectories become effectively irreversible. Available management tools can help protect forest birds from contracting avian malaria, which causes 90–100% mortality in highly susceptible honeycreepers.	13				
OP	LNR402	DA	53		Landscape-Scale Predator Grid and Monitoring on Mauna Kea						404,050						-	Not recommended by GFAC	These impacts could reverse decades of conservation efforts to control invasive species, with significant consequences for multiple species of concern.	14				
OP	LNR402	DA	56		DLNR Mosquito Control Project Specialist						150,000						-	Not recommended by GFAC	The impact would be the loss of key personnel critical to managing statewide mosquito control efforts, directly undermining actions to protect declining forest bird populations from avian malaria.	15				
OP	LNR402	DA	59		Kure Atoll Ecological Restoration Field Station						650,000						-	Not recommended by GFAC	This station is a critical outpost for seabird conservation and ecosystem monitoring in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI). Reduction of management effort would have negative impacts to the most significant wildlife sanctuary in the state..	16				
OP	LNR402	DA	60		Seabird Habitat Protection Through Invasive Species Control on Kauai Offshore Islets						226,140						-	Not recommended by GFAC	Kauai's offshore islands are a host to important seabird nesting colonies and without funding rats and other invasive species would be left unchecked.	17				
OP	LNR402	DA	62		Using Automated Recording Units (ARUs) to Comprehensively Monitor Hawaii Island's Forest Bird Populations						516,003						-	Not recommended by GFAC	This would reduce the ability to make timely conservation decisions and take effective action, particularly in addressing predation and disease impacting forest bird populations.	18				
OP	LNR402	DA		130-001	West Maui Climate Modeling						-						500,000	Community submitted project						
OP	LNR402	DA		130-002	Hawai'I Wildfire Risk Reduction Program / Firewise						-						6,000,000	Community submitted project						
OP	LNR402	DA		130-004	Work with non-profit partners to aid in the protection and recovery of Hawaii's native birds from mosquito-born avian malaria and other existential threats.						-						1,600,000	Community submitted project						
OP	LNR404	GC	11	130-002	Funding to Update of the Hawai'i Water Conservation Plan						250,000						250,000	No Change						
OP	LNR404	GC	15		Funding for the Hawai'i Mesonet Network						500,000						-	Not recommended by GFAC						A separate request for Mesonet funding was included in the budget of the Department of Agriculture & Biosecurity (DAB). As long as funding is available through DAB, no adverse impacts on Mesonet are anticipated.
OP	LNR404	GC	19	130-001	Funding to Update of the Hawai'i Drought Plan						250,000						250,000	No Change						

OP	LNR404	GC	61		Funding for Hydrologic Studies and Research						1,500,000						-	Not recommended by GFAC	CWRM is responsible for protecting the health of 110 aquifer system areas and 376 perennial streams statewide. Without additional funding for water monitoring and hydrologic studies CWRM cannot understand long-term temporal and spatial changes in water resources and availability and the impacts of climate change on water supplies. This directly affects decisions about water use permits and the designation of water management areas.	8				
OP	LNR404	GC	63		Water Audit and Water Conservation Implementation Projects						350,000						-	Not recommended by GFAC	Public water systems that lack sufficient funding will be unable to prevent water loss within their systems and make improvements to achieve great water conservation through leak detection, water meter testing, repairing aging systems and more. Water conservation is especially important in water stressed areas such as Lahaina, Maui, and other areas of the State where CWRM is observing noticeable declines in water supply.	9				Funding will increase the impact of federal and private grant monies already secured by CWRM
OP	LNR405	HA	2	130-002	Makai Watch Program Expansion						360,916						360,916	No Change						
OP	LNR405	HA		130-001	Fostering effective marine resource enforcement through DOCARE-Makai Watch community partnerships						-						2,500,000	Community submitted project	Additional funding for makai Watch has the potential to expand capacity, improve outcomes, and provide greater long-term benefits. The funding could enhance statewide program operations by providing more educational materials used by volunteers to promote program and its objectives, including monitoring of natural resources, reporting violations and increasing collaboration internally and externally with other Makai Watch Groups and the communities served. Additionally, the funding could be used for the purchase of equipmwnt including scientific monitoring equipment to conduct creel surveys, surveillance equipment such as binoculars, spotting scopes and other optics, and other operating equipment to ensure the statewide Makai Watch programs can operate efficiently to accomplish its objectives. Should the funding be approved, DOCARE will do its best to use the it to the fullest extent possible.						
OP	LNR407	NA	20		Improving Seed Storage Intake and Fern Lab Operations						200,000						-	Not recommended by GFAC	Delays in improvements limit the ability to meet the growing demand for seed needed for restoration projects and constrains the capability to store a greater variety and quantity of seeds.	6				
OP	LNR407	NA	24	130-007	Endangered Plant Seed Banking						450,000						450,000	No Change						
OP	LNR407	NA	28	130-006	Plant Extinction Prevention Program						300,000						300,000	No Change						
OP	LNR407	NA	32	130-009	Expanding Invasive Plant Control in Molokai Core Watershed Areas						150,000						150,000	No Change						
OP	LNR407	NA	33	130-010	Kuia and Honopu Trail Improvement						250,000						250,000	No Change						
OP	LNR407	NA	42		Hawai'i Invertebrate Program- Statewide Operational Support for Native Invertebrate Conservation						378,000						-	Not recommended by GFAC	Native invertebrates serve as grazers, decomposers, and pollinators of native plants, and are an important dietary components for other species such as native birds and bats. They play a key role in sustaining ecosystem function and yet are often overlooked in competitive granting opportunities. Lack of funding would greatly reduce the the ability to monitor and stabilize threatened and endangered populations statewide. Recovery efforts would be impaired.	11				
OP	LNR407	NA	45	130-008	Maui Nui Endangered Species Predator Control						436,464						436,464	No Change						
OP	LNR407	NA	47	130-004	Pia Natural Area Reserve Native Forest Restoration Project						140,000						140,000	No Change						
OP	LNR407	NA	50		Research and Management Actions for Yellow-Faced Bee Nesting Habitats on West Maui						161,762						-	Not recommended by GFAC						
OP	LNR407	NA	57		Hawaii Branch Avian Team						440,000						-	Not recommended by GFAC						
OP	LNR407	NA	58		Coastal Habitat Restoration and Monitoring for Endangered Yellow-Faced Bee Populations on O'ahu						261,315						-	Not recommended by GFAC						
OP	LNR407	NA	64		Maui Nui Endangered Plant and Invertebrate Support						250,000						-	Not recommended by GFAC	Slows the conservation efforts for rare plants, specifically impeding survey, collection, and reintroduction.	19				
OP	LNR407	NA		130-001	Climate Resilience Crews						-						3,000,000	Community submitted project						
OP	LNR407	NA		130-002	Indigenous Climate Infrastructure -Waipi'o						-						500,000	Community submitted project						
OP	LNR407	NA		130-003	Public-private watershed management, Statewide						-						1,000,000	Community submitted project						
OP	LNR407	NA		130-005	Conservation Corps for community partnership and workforce capacity development for green jobs and climate resiliency						-						1,250,000	Community submitted project						
OP	LNR804	DA	34	130-001	Nā Manu 'Elele Statewide Land Steward Program						1,000,000						1,000,000	No Change						
OP	LNR810	GD	66	130-001	Upgrade and Modernize the Hawaii Flood Hazard Assessment Tool (FHAT), a web-based GIS flood map viewer for the State of Hawaii.						300,000						300,000	No Change						
OP	LNR906	AA	1		Green Fee Community Stewardship Program						10,000,000						-	Not recommended by GFAC						
OP	LNR906	AA	3	130-001	Loko I'a Resilience Program						162,250						162,250	No Change						
OP	LNR906 LNR407/NA	AA		130-002	Green Fee Community Stewardship (ahupuaa restoration): Support community-based ahupuaa restoration, statewide						-						10,560,000	Community submitted project						

OP	LNR906 LNR401/CA	AA		130-003	Green Fee Community Stewardship (nearshore marine environments): Supporting community co-management for coral reef resilience						-						5,750,000	Community submitted project						
OP	LNR906 LNR401/CA	AA		130-004	Green Fee Community Stewardship (coral restoration): Supporting community driven coral and coastal restoration initiatives for coastal resilience and storm protection						-						1,500,000	Community submitted project						
OP	LNR906 LNR402/DA	AA		130-005	Green Fee Community Stewardship (muliwai): Restore wetlands, anchialine ponds, and riparian zones with community partners, for flood control, habitat improvement, and coastal resiliency						-						1,500,000	Community submitted project						
OP	LNR906 LNR401/CA	AA		130-006	Green Fee Community Stewardship (fishponds): Restore fishponds statewide and revive traditional aquaculture production with community partners						-						1,000,000	Community submitted project						
OP	LNR906 LNR402/DA	AA		130-007	Green Fee Community Stewardship (coastal): Support coastal ecosystem restoration to improve coastal resilience to storms, floods, and climate disasters						-						2,250,000	Community submitted project						
OP	LNR906 LNR402/DA	AA		130-008	Green Fee Community Stewardship (invasive species): Community partnerships for invasive species control and capacity						-						5,000,000	Community submitted project						
OP	LNR906	AA		130-009	Monitoring and Evaluation for the Environmental Stewardship project portfolio						-						500,000	Community submitted project						
OP	LNR908	AC	38		Building Climate Resilience in Kealaikahiki, Kahoʻolawe						160,000						-	Not recommended by GFAC						

FY 27 SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET
RESPONSE TO SENATE WAM'S REQUEST FOR FEEDBACK
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

ProgID	Title	Intent of Funding	FY27	Category	Comments
LNR101	Conservation of Agriculture and Soil Health	Establishment of a Conservation Agriculture and Soil Health Incentive Program within the Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission (SB2110)	1,500,000	Environmental Stewardship	This funding will continue our work to support land managers in protecting soil health and mitigate climate impacts.
LNR101	Seed Orchards	Development & implementation of Koaia seed orchards on Hawaii Island and Oahu to ensure the propagation and survival of the endangered native Koaia trees.	400,000	Environmental Stewardship	Recommend categorizing as LNR 172, Forestry - Resource Management and Development, or LNR 402, Native Resources and Fire Protection. Koaia has much potential to advance native forest restoration as well as urban forestry goals. The lack of seed has hindered progress. Koaia seed orchards will enhance DOFAW's capacity to reforest and aforest with this once abundant tree.
LNR101	Ala Wai Canal flood control planning	Coordinated planning for Ala Wai flood control	2,000,000	Climate/Hazard Resilience	The Ala Wai Canal Flood Risk Management Plan is being carried out by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the City and County of Honolulu. Additionally, UH and DOT are collaborating on a debris management pilot project for the Ala Wai Canal.
LNR405	Protection of Natural Resources	Construction of Central Oahu DOCARE substation (Department CIP Priority A08)	15,200,000	Environmental Stewardship	Provides positive benefit to the program by creating additional operating space and capacity to conduct law enforcement operations in Central Oahu and the North Shore.
LNR405	Protection of Natural Resources	Procurement of equipment and vehicles, including temporary structures/portables for Central Oahu DOCARE substation (similar to Department Operating Priority #25).	1,300,000	Environmental Stewardship	Provides positive benefit to the program by providing additional law enforcement equipment resources and operating space. This will increase response efficiency and capacity in Central Oahu and the North Shore.

FY 27 SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET
RESPONSE TO SENATE WAM'S REQUEST FOR FEEDBACK
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

ProgID	Title	Intent of Funding	FY27	Category	Comments
LNR407	Urban Extreme Heat Temperature Reduction Projects	Funding for the DLNR Kaulunani Urban and Community Forestry Program to develop and implement two demonstration projects to reduce urban temperatures and improve visual aesthetics by substantially greening a high school campus and a section of highway in the urban core	5,000,000	Climate/Hazard Resilience	Recommend categorizing as LNR 172, Forestry - Resource Management and Development, as it pertains to the Urban and Community Forestry Program. Last month a Senator requested Kaulunani take on these projects and preliminary planning is already underway. This additional support to green, cool, and make our urban spaces more resilient to climate change advances Kaulunani Program goals and our state Forest Action Plan objectives.
LNR801	Improvement to coastal infrastructure	Plans and Design for Kihei Boat Harbor	500,000	Sustainable Tourism	This funding will provide design and permitting for repair to the boat ramp and loading docks, which are critical to support the local tourism industry for whale watching tours, snorkeling, and general recreational boating.
LNR801	Improvement to coastal infrastructure	Plans and Design for Maalaea Small Boat Harbor	500,000	Sustainable Tourism	This funding will provide design and permitting for repair to the boat ramp and loading docks, which are critical to support the local tourism industry for whale watching tours, snorkeling, and general recreational boating.
LNR801	Improvement to coastal infrastructure	Plans and Design for Honokohau Small Boat Harbor	400,000	Sustainable Tourism	This funding will provide design and permitting for facility improvements, which directly support the local tourism industry for big game fishing, snorkeling, and general recreational boating.
LNR801	Improvement to coastal infrastructure	Plans and Design for Kailua-Kona Wharf	900,000	Sustainable Tourism	This funding will provide design and permitting for facility improvements, which directly support the local tourism industry for parasailing tours, big game fishing, snorkeling, and general recreational boating.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

MAR 2 4 2026

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi,
President and Members of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura,
Speaker and Members of the House
of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Aloha President Kouchi, Speaker Nakamura and Members of the Legislature:

Transmitted herewith are proposed changes to the FY 27 Executive Supplemental Budget for the operating and capital improvement program (CIP) budget requests, as applicable, for the Departments of Agriculture and Biosecurity (AGR) and Land and Natural Resources (LNR).

Your favorable consideration would be appreciated for the following budget requests to amend the FY 27 Executive Supplemental Budget:

1. Adjustments to the Operating Budget Request:

   The following budget requests are being proposed to update the amounts requested in the operating budget:

   Department of Land and Natural Resources

   Parks Administration and Operations – Park Interpretation (LNR 806/FI)

   Add $3,000,000 in special funds in FY 27 to increase the expenditure ceiling for land management activities that include hazardous material remediation, debris removal, tree trimming, and enforcement.

2. Adjustments to CIP Requests:

The following budget request is being proposed to update the amounts requested in the CIP budget:

Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity

Agricultural Resource Management (AGR 141)

Add $28,800,000 in general obligation (G.O.) bond funds for FY 27 for plans, land acquisition, design, construction, and equipment for improvements to the Wahiawa Dam. The FY 27 Supplemental Executive Budget currently includes $15,000,000 in G.O. bond funds for FY 27, so with this addition of $28,800,000, the entire Wahiawa Dam CIP request for FY 27 will total $43,800,000.

Department of Land and Natural Resources

Parks Administration and Operations (LNR 806)

Add $4,000,000 in special funds in FY 27 for plans, design, and construction to conduct additional testing for contamination and environmental hazards; to implement remediation measures and debris clearing to protect public health and safety; to ensure compliance with Department of Health requirements; and to perform related work at Lake Wilson.

Thank you for your tireless work on behalf of the State of Hawai'i. Your favorable consideration of these budget requests is greatly appreciated.

Mahalo,

Josh Green, M.D.
Governor, State of Hawai'i

Attachment

c: Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz
Honorable Chris T. Todd

OPERATING

The following operating budget amendments to the FY 27 Executive Supplemental Budget are requested:

Department of Land and Natural Resources

Parks Administration and Operations – Park Interpretation (LNR 806/FI)

Add $3,000,000 in special funds in FY 27 to increase the expenditure ceiling for land management activities that include hazardous material remediation, debris removal, tree trimming, and enforcement.

	FY 2026	FY 2027
Other Current Expenses	$..... B	$ 3,000,000 B

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The following capital improvement program budget amendments (amounts are in thousands) to the FY 27 Executive Supplemental Budget are requested:

Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity

AGR 141 AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

By amending Item No. A-12.00 as follows:

"12.00 WAHIAWA DAM IMPROVEMENTS, OAHU

PLANS, LAND ACQUISITION, DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, AND EQUIPMENT FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE WAHIAWA DAM.

	FY 2026	FY 2027
PLANS		1
LAND ACQUISITION		1
DESIGN		1
CONSTRUCTION		[~~14,996~~] 43,796
EQUIPMENT		1
TOTAL FUNDING AGR	C	[~~15,000~~] 43,800 C"

Department of Land and Natural Resources

LNR 806 PARKS ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATIONS

By adding a new item:

"LAKE WILSON ACQUISITION, OAHU

PLANS, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION TO CONDUCT ADDITIONAL TESTING FOR CONTAMINATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS; TO IMPLEMENT REMEDIATION MEASURES AND DEBRIS CLEARING TO PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY; TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH DOH REQUIREMENTS; AND TO PERFORM RELATED WORK.

	FY 2026	FY 2027
PLANS		1,000
DESIGN		1,000
CONSTRUCTION		2,000
TOTAL FUNDING LNR	B	4,000 B"

Prog ID	Project Title	MOF	ACT 250, SLH 2025 CIP Appropriations		FY27 Supplemental CIP Requests, GMs #2, #5, and #6			Total FB 2025-27 Requests	
			FY 26	FY 27	Dept Priority #	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27
A. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT									
LNR141	ROCKFALL AND FLOOD MITIGATION, STATEWIDE	C	2,000,000	-	2		2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
LNR172	WATERTANK REPLACEMENT, HAWAII	C			GM #2	2,000,000		2,000,000	-
D. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION									
LNR401	ANUENUE FISHERIES RESEARCH CENTER ANNEX, ROOF REPAIR/PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEM INSTALLATION,OAHU	C	750,000	-				750,000	-
LNR401	FISHING ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS, OAHU	C	400,000	-				400,000	-
LNR401	DAR ANUENUE FISHERIES RESEARCH CENTER (AFRC) ANNEX SEWER CONNECTION, OAHU	C			3	-	550,000	-	550,000
LNR401	PILOT CESSPOOL CONVERSIONS IN CORAL HOTSPOTS, HAWAII	C			GM #2	1,000,000		1,000,000	-
LNR402	KAWAINUI MARSH PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENTS, OAHU	C	8,750,000	-				8,750,000	-
LNR402	POHAKEA FIRE PREVENTION AND SUPPRESSION INFRASTRUCTURE, MAUI	C	1,750,000	-				1,750,000	-
LNR402	MAUI BASEYARD OFFICE ROOF REPAIR AND REPLACE, MAUI	C			10	-	750,000	-	750,000
LNR404	KEAUHOU AQUIFER SYSTEM, HAWAII	C	4,000,000	-				4,000,000	-
LNR404	DEEP MONITOR WELLS, STATEWIDE	C	2,000,000	-	30	-	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
LNR404	WATER SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURE INVENTORY AND RESILIENCE STUDY, STATEWIDE	C			GM #2	1,500,000		1,500,000	-
LNR405	LND ACQSTN, PLNS, & DSGN FOR DIV OF CNSERVTN & RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT FACILITY, OAHU	C	2,450,000	-				2,450,000	-
LNR405	DOCARE HAWAII BRANCH OFFICE BUILDING RENOVATION, HAWAII	C	2,000,000	-	6		1,000,000	2,000,000	1,000,000
LNR407	KAWAINUI MARSH, OAHU	C	2,200,000	-				2,200,000	-
LNR407	WATERSHED PROTECTION AND INITIATIVES, STATEWIDE	C	5,000,000	-				5,000,000	-
LNR906	HAWAII PACIFIC UNIVERSITY HAWAII LOA CAMPUS ACQUISITION AND RENOVATION, OAHU	C	-	-	1	-	4,000,000	-	4,000,000
LNR405	DOCARE HAWAII BRANCH OFFICE BUILDING RENOVATION, HAWAII	C	2,000,000	-			1,000,000	2,000,000	1,000,000
LNR405	DOCARE HAWAII BRANCH OFFICE BUILDING RENOVATION, HAWAII	C			GM #5	(2,000,000)	(1,000,000)	(2,000,000)	(1,000,000)
LNR405	DOCARE HAWAII BRANCH OFFICE BUILDING REPLACEMENT, HAWAII	C	-	-	GM #5	2,000,000	1,000,000	2,000,000	1,000,000
H. CULTURE AND RECREATION									
LNR801	LAHAINA SMALL BOAT HARBOR MAINTENANCE DREDGING, MAUI	C	5,000,000				-	5,000,000	-
LNR801	LAHAINA SMALL BOAT HARBOR RECONSTRUCTION OF OUTER MARGINAL WHARF, MAUI	C	8,000,000			-	-	8,000,000	-
LNR801	ALA WAI CANAL WALL REPAIR, OAHU	C	5,000,000	-				5,000,000	-
LNR801	KAWAIHAE NORTH SMALL BOAT HARBOR, HAWAII	C	9,450,000	-				9,450,000	-
LNR801	POHOIKI SAFE SWIM AREA, HAWAII	C	200,000	-				200,000	-
LNR801	REPLACEMENT OF FISH HOIST AND CONCRETE LANDING STRUCTURES, MILOLII LANDING, HAWAII	C	1,000,000	-				1,000,000	-

Prog ID	Project Title	MOF	ACT 250, SLH 2025 CIP Appropriations		FY27 Supplemental CIP Requests, GMs #2, #5, and #6			Total FB 2025-27 Requests	
			FY 26	FY 27	Dept Priority #	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26	FY 27
LNR801	LAHAINA SMALL BOAT HARBOR - LUMP SUM IMPROVEMENTS FOR REBUILD POST-WILDFIRE, MAUI	C	-	-	7	-	12,500,000	-	12,500,000
LNR801	DAY USE MOORING REPAIRS, STATEWIDE	C	-	-	GM #2	2,500,000		2,500,000	-
LNR806	WAHIAWA FRESHWATER STATE RECREATION AREA PARK IMPROVEMENTS, OAHU	C	5,750,000	2,150,000				5,750,000	2,150,000
LNR806	WAHIAWA FRESHWATER STATE RECREATION AREA PARK IMPROVEMENTS, OAHU	N	250,000	250,000				250,000	250,000
LNR806	STATE PARKS INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS, LUMP SUM,	C			8	-	8,500,000	-	8,500,000
LNR806	STATE PARKS INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS, LUMP SUM,	N			8	-	500,000	-	500,000
LNR806	STATE PARKS INFRASTRUCTURE AND PARK IMPROVEMENTS, LUMP SUM, STATEWIDE	C	2,650,000	-		-	-	2,650,000	-
LNR806	STATE PARKS INFRASTRUCTURE AND PARK IMPROVEMENTS, LUMP SUM, STATEWIDE	N	500,000	-		-	-	500,000	-
LNR806	WAILUKU RIVER STATE PARK EXPANSION, HAWAII	C			31	-	3,500,000	-	3,500,000
LNR806	WAILUKU RIVER STATE PARK EXPANSION, HAWAII	P			31	-	1,000	-	1,000
LNR806	LAKE WILSON ACQUISITION, OAHU	B	-	-	GM #6	-	4,000,000	-	4,000,000
LNR806	STATE PARKS IMPROVEMENTS, STATEWIDE	C			GM #2	9,550,000		9,550,000	-
K. GOVERNMENT-WIDE SUPPORT									
LNR101	DEMOLITION OF EXISTING IMPROVEMENTS AT 121 BANYAN DRIVE, HAWAII	C	1,200,000	-		-	-	1,200,000	-
LNR101	HALAI STREET PROPERTY, AUWAI DRAINAGE, HAWAII	C	1,455,000	-				1,455,000	-
LNR101	STADIUM IMPROVEMENTS, KAUAI	C	700,000	-				700,000	-
LNR101	CESSPOOL CLOSURES IN ACCORDANCE WITH EPA CONSENT ORDER, STATEWIDE	B	1,500,000	-		-	-	1,500,000	-
LNR101	SHANGRI LA BREAKWATER REMOVAL, OAHU	B	700,000	-		-	-	700,000	-
LNR101	LOWER KAPAHI RESERVOIR REMOVAL, KAUAI	B	500,000	-		-	-	500,000	-
LNR101	EAST KAPOLEI TRANSIT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT PROJECT, OAHU	B	500,000	-		-	-	500,000	-
LNR101	PUBLIC LAND ACQUISITION, OAHU	C			GM #5		14,000,000	-	14,000,000
LNR101	WAIMANALO PATHWAYS, OAHU	C	-	-	GM #5	-	2,500,000	-	2,500,000
LNR101	BEACH AND DUNE RESTORATION, LUMP SUM, STATEWIDE	C			GM #2	13,800		13,800	-
	TOTAL - NEW REQUESTS BY MOF		77,655,000	2,400,000		16,563,800	56,801,000	94,218,800	59,201,000
	Special Funds	B	3,200,000	-		-	4,000,000	3,200,000	4,000,000
	General Obligation Bonds	C	73,705,000	2,150,000		16,563,800	52,300,000	90,268,800	54,450,000
	Federal Funds	N	750,000	250,000		-	500,000	750,000	750,000
	Other Federal Funds	P	-	-		-	1,000	-	1,000
	TOTAL		**77,655,000**	**2,400,000**		**16,563,800**	**56,801,000**	**94,218,800**	**59,201,000**

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HB1800 HD1 IMPACT STATEMENT - CIP
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						GOV Budget, including GM#2 and GM#5						House Draft								
						FY26			FY27			FY26			FY27					
OP/CIP	ProgID	Item # (CIP)	Description of Request	Appropriation Description	MOF	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Description of Change in HD1	Impact of Change	Priority to Restore (1 = highest priority to restore funding to GOV budget)	Alternative Reduction for Any Opposed Reductions
CIP	LNR101	K-5	CESSPOOL CLOSURES IN ACCORDANCE WITH EPA CONSENT ORDER, STATEWIDE	PLANS, DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPMENT FOR CLOSURE OF LARGE CAPACITY CESSPOOLS (LCC) IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER (CA/FO) WITH THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA).	B			1,500,000			-			1,500,000			-	House concurs	no change		
CIP	LNR101	K-6	DEMOLITION ~~OF EXISTING IMPROVEMENTS~~ LOCATED AT 121 BANYAN DRIVE, HAWAII	PLANS, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION FOR DEMOLITION OF 121 BANYAN DRIVE, HILO, HAWAII, AND SITE REMEDIATION.	C			1,200,000			-			1,200,000			1,000	House revises title, description, and adds $1,000	The Department supports the change. However, we respectfully clarifiy that the original request of $1,200,000 is for planning and design only. Additional funds will be requested for construction. On 2/13/2026, DLNR requested the release of $1,200,000 for planning and design, as originally appropriated.		
CIP	LNR101	K-7	EAST KAPOLEI TRANSIT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT PROJECT, OAHU	PLANS AND DESIGN FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF FOUR DLNR PARCELS ADJACENT AND NEARBY THE KEONEAE RAIL STATION.	B			500,000			-			500,000			-	House concurs	no change		
CIP	LNR101	K-11.01	GREEN FEE BEACH AND DUNE RESTORATION, LUMP SUM, STATEWIDE	PLANS, DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, AND EQUIPMENT FOR BEACH AND DUNE RESTORATION, STATEWIDE; GROUND AND SITE IMPROVEMENTS; EQUIPMENT AND APPURTENANCES.	C			13,800,000			-			-			13,800,000	House concurs, adjusts FY	GM#2 - no change		
CIP	LNR101	K-8	HALAI STREET PROPERTY, AUWAI DRAINAGE, HAWAII	PLANS, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION TO REMOVE EXISTING CRM DITCH AND INSTALL A 60-INCH RCP CULVERT.	C			1,455,000			-			1,455,000			-	House concurs	no change		
CIP	LNR101	K-9	LOWER KAPAHI RESERVOIR REMOVAL, KAUAI	PLANS AND DESIGN FOR BREACH OF LOWER KAPAHI RESERVOIR TO COMPLY WITH DAM SAFETY REGULATIONS.	B			500,000			-			500,000			-	House concurs	no change		
CIP	LNR101	-	PUBLIC LAND ACQUISITION, OAHU	LAND ACQUISITION TO ACQUIRE AN APPROXIMATELY 132-ACRE PROPERTY AND EXISTING STRUCTURES FORMERLY OCCUPIED BY HAWAII PACIFIC UNIVERSITY HAWAII LOA CAMPUS ON OAHU (TMK: (1)4-5-035:010) FOR THE DLNR.	C			-			14,000,000			-			(14,000,000)	House deletes	GM#5 - reappropriates $14,000,000 of the FY25 appropriation. The Department has been diligently working to acquire this property; however, unanticipated delays in obtaining approvals under the restrictive covenant governing acceptable uses, the right of entry, and due diligence have blocked the expenditure of funds within the two-year timeframe. The purchase of this campus is urgently needed, as DLNR has been working out of temporary structures and short-term lease agreements with other agencies; however, the lack of adequate facilities and infrastructure hinders DLNR's ability to fulfill its mission and puts critically endangered species under our care at risk. The HPU campus presents a unique opportunity to meet the operational needs of the Department, particularly by providing a safe, storm-hardened home for our state's most critically endangered tree snails and rare plant seeds, as well as much-needed training and accommodation space for the DOCARE Academy. In planning for the future use of the campus, the entire Department has been envisioning how each division will utilize the space in some capacity along with our UH partners who provide watershed partnership and invasive species management. This facility is critically needed at this time, especially as DLNR is gearing up to expand to meet project needs of green fee funded initatives.	1	
CIP	LNR101	K-10	SHANGRI LA BREAKWATER REMOVAL, OAHU	PLANS AND DESIGN FOR DEMOLITION OF STATE-OWNED STRUCTURE LOCATED IN THE OCEAN SEAWARD OF THE SHANGRI LA MUSEUM.	B			700,000			-			700,000			-	House concurs	no change		
CIP	LNR101	K-11	STADIUM IMPROVEMENTS, KAUAI	PLANS, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION FOR TRACK AND FACILITY MAINTENANCE; REPAIR AND UPGRADES TO STADIUM; TRACK LIGHTING; SPECTATOR LIGHTING; EQUIPMENT ACQUISITION.	C			700,000			-			700,000			-	House concurs	no change		
CIP	LNR101	-	WAIMANALO PATHWAYS, OAHU	PLANS, DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION FOR OFF-STREET MUL TI-MODAL PATHWAYS THROUGH WAIMANALO FROM OLOMANA GOLF COURSE TO SANDY BEACH PARK.	C			-			2,500,000			-			(2,500,000)	House deletes	This request is for replacement CIP funds for the FY25 Waimabalo Pathways, Oahu (Act 230, SLH 2024, Item H-2) that the Department was informed could not be release as MOF A funds.	8	
CIP	LNR141	A-19	ROCKFALL AND FLOOD MITIGATION, STATEWIDE	DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION FOR ROCKFALL AND FLOOD MITIGATION AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS, STATEWIDE. THE LEGISLATURE FINDS AND DECLARES THAT THE APPROPRIATION IS IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST AND FOR THE PUBLIC'S HEALTH, SAFETY AND GENERAL WELFARE OF THE STATE.	C			2,000,000			2,000,000			2,000,000			2,000,000	House concurs	no change		

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CIP	LNR172	A-3.1	GREEN FEE HALE PIULA WATERTANK REPLACEMENT AND CLEAN UP, HAWAII	PLANS, DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, AND EQUIPMENT FOR WATER TANKS FOR FIRE SUPPRESSION; GROUND AND SITE IMPROVEMENTS; EQUIPMENT AND APPURTENANCES.	C			2,000,000			-			-			2,000,000	House concurs, adjusts title and FY	GM#2 - the Department supports.		
CIP	LNR401	D-3	ANUENUE FISHERIES RESEARCH CENTER ANNEX, ROOF REPAIR/PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEM INSTALLATION,OAHU	PLANS, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION FOR ROOF REPAIR AND INSTALLATION OF A PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEM AT THE ANUENUE FISHERIES RESEARCH CENTER ANNEX (AFRC ANNEX).	C			750,000			-			750,000			-	House concurs	no change		
CIP	LNR401	D-3.1	DAR ANUENUE FISHERIES RESEARCH CENTER (AFRC), OAHU	PLANS, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION FOR AFRC PHASE A MAINTENANCE, UPGRADES, AND IMPROVEMENTS, INCLUDING AQUACULTURE DEFERRED MAINTENANCE, THE DIVE CENTER, AND SEWER CONNECTION; GROUND AND SITE IMPROVEMENTS; EQUIPMENT AND APPURTENANCES.	C			-			-			-			13,000,000	House adds	The Department supports this request.		
CIP	LNR401	D-4	FISHING ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS, OAHU	PLANS, DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, EQUIPMENT, AND RELATED WORK FOR IMPROVEMENTS ACROSS FISHING AREAS ON OAHU.	C			400,000			-			400,000			-	House concurs	no change		
CIP	LNR401	D-4.1	GREEN FEE PILOT CESSPOOL CONVERSIONS IN CORAL HOTSPOTS, HAWAII	PLANS, DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, AND EQUIPMENT FOR CESSPOOL CONVERSIONS, HAWAII; GROUND AND SITE IMPROVEMENTS; EQUIPMENT AND APPURTENANCES.	C			1,000,000			-			-			1,000,000	House concurs, adjusts FY	GM#2 - The Department supports.this request.		
CIP	LNR401	-	DAR ANUENUE FISHERIES RESEARCH CENTER (AFRC) ANNEX SEWER CONNECTION, OAHU	PLANS, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE SEWER CONNECTION FOR AFRC ANNEX TO ABANDON THE EXISTING CESSPOOL AND CONNECT TO THE CITY SEWER SYSTEM TO COMPLY WITH CITY, STATE, AND FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS.	C			-			550,000						(550,000)	House deletes	no change	3	
CIP	LNR402	D-5	KAWAINUI MARSH PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENTS, OAHU	PLANS, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION FOR PREDATOR FENCING, BUFFERS, AND ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS, VICINITY OF KAWAINUI LEVEE TO KAWAINUI MODEL AIRPLANE FIELD.	C			8,750,000			-			8,750,000			-	House concurs	no change		
CIP	LNR402	D-5.1	KILAUEA RADIO REPEATER, KAUAI	CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPMENT AND APPURTENANCES FOR THE KILAUEA RADIO REPEATER UPGRADES AND ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT.	C			-			-			-			350,000	House adds	The Department appreciates the add and supports this request. If not repaired, DOFAW will not have full radio coverage for the Easterns part of Kauai, which poses and hazard to staff during emergencies.		
CIP	LNR402	D-6	POHAKEA FIRE PREVENTION AND SUPPRESSION INFRASTRUCTURE, MAUI	PLANS, DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, AND EQUIPMENT FOR A SECTION OF DLNR LANDS IN WEST MAUI HIGHLY PRONE TO WILDFIRE DUE TO INVASIVE GRASSES. THE RECENT ACQUISITION OF THREE WELLS AND A 750,000-GALLON WATER TANK WILL ENABLE THE BRANCH TO REPLACE HAZARDOUS FUEL LOADS WITH GREEN BREAKS, RIPARIAN CORRIDORS, AND GRAZING BREAKS	C			1,750,000			-			1,750,000			-	House concurs	no change		
CIP	LNR402	-	MAUI BASEYARD OFFICE ROOF REPAIR AND REPLACE, MAUI	PLANS, DESIGN, EQUIPMENT, AND CONSTRUCTION TO REPAIR A LEAKING BASEYARD OFFICE ROOF.	C			-			750,000			-			(750,000)	House deletes	Rains continue to leak through the office roof, damaging the ceiling and requiring costly repairs. Its only going to get worse if we do not repair it.	5	If necessary, suggest cutting amount by half to at least allow us to get a portion of it done.
CIP	LNR402	D-6.1	WEST KAUAI BASEYARD, KAUAI	PLANS, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION FOR CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT OF THE DLNR WEST KAUAI BASEYARD; EQUIPMENT AND APPURTENANCES.	C			-			-			-			8,000,000	House adds	The Department appreciates the add and supports this request. This is a multi year project that has been paid for in large part by the Department of Defense. DLNR has no Westside baseyard on Kauai, which poses numerous problems for efficacy, increases costs of gasoline and vehicles, requires the public to drive to Lihue, and reduces DOFAW's response time to westside wildfires.		
CIP	LNR402	D-6.2	WEST KAUAI DLNR RESOURCES OFFICES, KAUAI	PLANS, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION FOR UPGRADES TO WEST KAUAI DLNR OFFICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE IN HANAPEPE, INCLUDING ELECTRICAL, PLUMBING, ROOF, SECURITY SYSTEM, FENCING AND AIR CONDITIONING IMPROVEMENTS; EQUIPMENT AND APPURTENANCES.	C			-			-			-			1,000,000	House adds	The Department appreciates the add and supports this request. DOFAW took ownership of this old Land Division rental to establish office space for DOFAW and SHPD. Additionally, this space will serve as a command post for DOFAW and DOCARE during west side emergency operations. The building needs to be upgraded to meet current permitting and HOSHA standards.		

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OP/CIP	ProgID	Item # (CIP)	Description of Request	Appropriation Description	MOF	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Description of Change in HD1	Impact of Change	Priority to Restore (1 = highest priority to restore funding to GOV budget)	Alternative Reduction for Any Opposed Reductions
CIP	LNR404	D-7	DEEP MONITOR WELLS, STATEWIDE	PLANS, LAND ACQUISITION, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION TO CONSTRUCT AND/OR REPAIR DEEP MONITOR WELLS STATEWIDE TO MONITOR THE HEALTH OF DRINKING WATER AQUIFERS; GROUND AND SITE IMPROVEMENTS, AND OTHER RELATED WORK.	C			2,000,000			2,000,000			2,000,000			(2,000,000)	House deletes	The Commission on Water Resource Management (CWRM) received $2M in FY25 Capital Improvement Project (CIP) funding to construct a deep monitor well (DMW) in the Wai'anae aquifer sector. CWRM does not presently operate a DMW in the region. Wai'anae was identified as a priority location for construction of a DMW to improve monitoring of aquifer conditions. DMWs are a critical tool for evaluating the "health" of an aquifer, providing essential data on groundwater levels, freshwater thickness, and extent of saltwater intrusion due to drought or excessive withdrawals. CWRM has already initiated planning and design work for the Wai'anae DMW through an existing consultant contract. A well site has been identified, site access has been secured, and field visits have been conducted with the contractor. State CIP funding complements federal Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) in FY24 totaling $959,757 and would allow the project to proceed to construction. Removal of the requested FY27 CIP funding would delay or prevent construction of the Wai'anae DMW and limit CWRM's ability to monitor conditions in the aquifer sector, in turn reducing the State's ability to detect early signs of saltwater intrusion or other impacts to the aquifer.	7	
CIP	LNR404	D-8.1	GREEN FEE WATER SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURE INVENTORY AND RESILIENCE STUDY, STATEWIDE	PLANS FOR A WATER SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURE INVENTORY AND RESILIENCE STUDY.	C			1,500,000			-			-			1,500,000	House concurs, adjusts FY	GM#2 - The Department supports this request.		
CIP	LNR404	D-8	KEAUHOU AQUIFER SYSTEM, HAWAII	PLANS, LAND ACQUISITION, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION FOR TWO DEEP MONITOR WELLS FOR THE KEAUHOU AQUIFER SYSTEM TO MONITOR THE HEALTH OF THE DRINKING WATER AQUIFER; GROUND AND SITE IMPROVEMENTS, AND OTHER RELATED WORK.	C			4,000,000			-			4,000,000			-	House concurs	no change		
CIP	LNR405	D-9	DOCARE HAWAII BRANCH OFFICE BUILDING RENOVATION REPLACEMENT, HAWAII	DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION FOR THE RENOVATION OF THE DOCARE HAWAII BRANCH OFFICE DUE TO SEVERE TERMITE INFESTATION RESULTING IN MAJOR DAMAGE TO THE STRUCTURE, INCLUDING INTERIOR WALLS, SUPPORT BEAMS, DOORS, AND RELATED WORK.	C			(2,000,000)			(1,000,000)			(2,000,000)			(1,000,000)	House concurs	no change		
CIP	LNR405	D-9	DOCARE HAWAII BRANCH OFFICE BUILDING REPLACEMENT, HAWAII	DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION FOR REPLACEMENT OF THE OFFICE BUILDING AND RELATED WORK DUE TO SEVERE TERMITE INFESTATION AND MAJOR STRUCTURAL DAMAGE.	C			2,000,000			1,000,000			2,000,000			1,000,000	House concurs	no change		
CIP	LNR405	D-10	LND ACQSTN, PLNS, & DSGN FOR DIV OF CNSERVTN & RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT FACILITY, OAHU	LAND ACQUISITION, PLANS, AND DESIGN FOR DIVISION OF CONSERVATION AND RESOURCE ENFORCEMENT FACILITY, OAHU, TMK 7-4-001-025.	C			2,450,000			-			2,450,000			-	House concurs	no change		
CIP	LNR407	D-11	KAWAINUI MARSH, OAHU	PLANS, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION OF WATER TRANSFER SYSTEM FROM KAWAINUI MARSH ACROSS THE KAWAINUI FLOOD CONTROL LEVEE TO HAMAKUA MARSH AND IMPROVEMENTS TO ROAD AND ACCESS TO KAWAINUI FLOOD CONTROL LEVEE FOR MAINTENANCE TO USACE STANDARDS.	C			2,200,000			-			2,200,000			-	House concurs	no change		
CIP	LNR407	D-12	WATERSHED PROTECTION AND INITIATIVES, STATEWIDE	PLANS, LAND ACQUISITION, DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, AND EQUIPMENT TO PROTECT AND RESTORE FORESTED WATERSHEDS AND OTHER WATER SUPPLIES, STATEWIDE; EQUIPMENT AND APPURTENANCES, AND ALL PROJECT RELATED COSTS. THE LEGISLATURE FINDS AND DECLARES THAT THE APPROPRIATION IS IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST AND FOR THE PUBLIC'S HEALTH, SAFETY AND GENERAL WELFARE OF THE STATE.	C			5,000,000			-			5,000,000			5,000,000	House adds	The Department appreciates the add and support of this request. This project will provide long term protection for forest watersheds by constructing fences and removing non native pigs, goats, deer, cattle, and sheep.		
CIP	LNR801	H-5	ALA WAI CANAL WALL REPAIR, OAHU	PLANS, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION FOR ALA WAI SBH CANAL WALL REPAIR AND HAUL-OUT REMOVAL; EQUIPMENT AND APPURTENANCES.	C			5,000,000			-			5,000,000			-	House concurs	no change		
CIP	LNR801	H-5.1	ALA WAI SMALL BOAT HARBOR, OAHU	PLANS, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF EXISTING GRAVITY SEWER LINES, PUMP STATION, AND FORCE MAINS.	C			-			-			-			4,500,000	House adds	The Department supports this request. Not high priority but can be addressed.		

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CIP	LNR801	H-10.1	GREEN FEE DAY USE MOORING REPAIRS, STATEWIDE	PLANS, DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, AND EQUIPMENT FOR NEW INSTALLATION AND REPAIRS OF DAY USE MOORING; GROUND AND SITE IMPROVEMENTS; EQUIPMENT AND APPURTENANCES.	C			2,500,000			-			-			2,500,000	House concurs, adjusts FY	GM#2 - no impact		
CIP	LNR801	H-5.2	HONOKOHAU SMALL BOAT HARBOR, HAWAII	PLANS, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE GRAVEL PARKING AREAS, INCLUDING ASPHALT PAVING, STRIPING, AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS; GROUND AND SITE IMPROVEMENTS; EQUIPMENT AND APPURTENANCES.	C			-			-			-			4,500,000	House adds	The Department supports this request. This project has been deferred for a number of years.		
CIP	LNR801	H-6	KAWAIHAE NORTH SMALL BOAT HARBOR, HAWAII	DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO HARBOR DOCK, BREAK WALL, AND RELATED IMPROVEMENTS.	C			9,450,000			-			9,450,000			-	House concurs	no change		
CIP	LNR801	H-6.1	KIHEI SMALL BOAT HARBOR, MAUI	PLANS, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION FOR SAFETY-RELATED REPAIRS OF THE BOAT RAMP AND DOCKS.	C			-			-			-			5,500,000	House adds	The Department supports this request. This project has been deferred for a number of years.		
CIP	LNR801	-	LAHAINA SMALL BOAT HARBOR - LUMP SUM IMPROVEMENTS FOR REBUILD POST-WILDFIRE, MAUI	DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION FOR REBUILD OF PIERS, LOADING DOCKS, ELECTRICAL SYSTEM, PAVEMENT RESURFACING, AND APPURTENANT WORK NEEDED TO RESTORE LAHAINA SMALL BOAT HARBOR FROM DAMAGES SUSTAINED FROM THE AUGUST 2023 WILDFIRES.	C			-			12,500,000			-			(12,500,000)	House deletes	Lack of funds will delay the final rebuild and reopening of Lahaina Harbor.	4	Remove H-8.3, H-8.4
CIP	LNR801	H-7	LAHAINA SMALL BOAT HARBOR MAINTENANCE DREDGING, MAUI	CONSTRUCTION FOR MAINTENANCE DREDGING OF HARBOR BASIN AND ENTRANCE CHANNEL.	C			5,000,000			-			5,000,000			-	House concurs	no change		
CIP	LNR801	H-8	LAHAINA SMALL BOAT HARBOR RECONSTRUCTION OF OUTER MARGINAL WHARF, MAUI	DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF HARBOR OUTER MARGINAL WHARF DESTROYED BY AUGUST 2023 WILDFIRES.	C			8,000,000			-			8,000,000			-	House concurs	no change		
CIP	LNR801	H-8.1	MAALAEA SMALL BOAT HARBOR, MAUI	PLANS, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF EXISTING DOCKS ON NORTH SIDE OF HARBOR WITH NEW PILE GUIDED ALUMINUM FRAMED FLOATING MARGINAL WHARF WITH ELECTRICAL/WATER SERVICE.	C			-			-			-			500,000	House adds	The Department supports this request. High priority - these facilities are beyond their useful life and need to be replaced.		
CIP	LNR801	H-8.2	MANELE SMALL BOAT HARBOR, MAUI	PLANS, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION FOR REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS FOR SUPPORTING A STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING ANALYSIS OF INFRASTRUCTURE INTEGRITY, REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE WATER LINE SYSTEM, AND FACILITATE THE REOPENING OF A CLOSED SECTION OF THE ROADWAY.	C			-			-			-			3,000,000	House adds	The Department supports this request. High priority - this project has been deferred and will address an ongoing issue that has negatively impacted vehicle access into the facility.		
CIP	LNR801	H-8.3	MAUNALUA BAY, OAHU	PLANS, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION FOR PHASE 2 REPAIRS TO BOAT LAUNCH, PARKING LOT, AND BEACH PARK AT MAUNALUA BAY BEACH PARK.	C			-			-			-			7,500,000	House adds	Recently completed $7.6M in improvements to this facility in January 2026. Other projects need to be prioritized at this time.		
CIP	LNR801	H-8.4	POHOIKI BAY, HAWAII	PLANS, DESIGN, PERMITTING, AND CONSTRUCTION FOR BREAKWATER STRUCTURES AND APPURTENANT WORK.	C			-			-			-			1,000,000	House adds	Insufficient funds for this proposed work. Studies have already been completed - estimated cost of at least $25M for the complete breakwater structure and appurtenant work.		
CIP	LNR801	H-9	POHOIKI SAFE SWIM AREA, HAWAII	PLANS AND DESIGN INCLUDING FEASIBILITY STUDY AND SITE SELECTION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SAFE SWIM AREA LOCATED IN POHOIKI.	C			200,000			-			200,000			-	House concurs	no change		
CIP	LNR801	H-10	REPLACEMENT OF FISH HOIST AND CONCRETE LANDING STRUCTURES, MILOLII LANDING, HAWAII	PLANS, DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, AND EQUIPMENT FOR REPLACEMENT OF FISH HOIST WITH NEW FISH HOIST ASSEMBLY AND CONCRETE FOOTING; REMOVAL OF EXISTING DAMAGED/DETERIORATING CONCRETE LANDING STRUCTURES AND CONSTRUCTION OF NEW CONCRETE LANDING STRUCTURES INCLUDING NEW CLEATS AND BULL RAILS.	C			1,000,000			-			1,000,000			-	House concurs	no change		
CIP	LNR804	H-2.1	KAIWA RIDGE TRAIL, OAHU	CONSTRUCTION FOR KAIWA RIDGE TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS, EROSION CONTROL, AND HABITAT RESTORATION, PHASE 2.	C			-			-			-			1,300,000	House adds	The department appreciates the add and support this request. The Kaiwa Ridge Trail's heavy use has caused significant resource damage and made it one of Oahu's most frequent hiker-rescue sites. These improvements are essential to enhance safety and ensure long term trail sustainability.		

FY27 SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET
HB1800 HD1 IMPACT STATEMENT - CIP
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

						GOV Budget, including GM#2 and GM#5						House Draft								
						FY26			FY27			FY26			FY27					
OP/CIP	ProgID	Item # (CIP)	Description of Request	Appropriation Description	MOF	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Description of Change in HD1	Impact of Change	Priority to Restore (1 = highest priority to restore funding to GOV budget)	Alternative Reduction for Any Opposed Reductions
CIP	LNR804	H-2.2	NOUNOU MOUNTAIN, WAILUA, KAUAI	PLANS, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION FOR UPGRADES SURROUNDING NOUNOU MOUNTAIN, INCLUDING KUAMOO BRIDGE, BENCHES, BICYCLE RACKS, SIGNAGE, PARKING LOTS, TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS, EROSION CONTROL, AND SHELTERS; EQUIPMENT AND APPURTENANCES.	C			-			-			-			3,000,000	House adds	The department appreciates the add and support this request. This Forest Reserve is arguably the most popular on Kauai Island and has three parking lots, trail heads, trails, shelter areas, benches and a bridge that is in complete disrepair and unusable. These funds will will improve safety of all of these public areas, as well as upgrade signage and restablish the bridge safety.		
CIP	LNR804	H-2.3	POLOLU TRAILHEAD AND HISTORIC TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS, HAWAII	DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION FOR TRAILHEAD IMPROVEMENTS INCLUDING PARKING LOT IMPROVEMENTS, NEW LOOKOUT CONSTRUCTION, AND INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE DESIGN AND MANUFACTURING.	C			-			-			-			1,000,000	House adds	The department appreciates the add and support this request. More than 1,000 people visit Pololū Trailhead each day, most of them non residents. This causes congestion and illegal parking in nearby neighborhoods. Using a donated parcel of land, improvements will reduce these impacts by adding parking and restroom facilities and by decreasing waste and erosion at the trailhead. These enhancements will improve safety for visitors and residents while meeting parking accessibility requirements		
CIP	LNR806	H-4.2	GREEN FEE STATE PARKS IMPROVEMENTS, STATEWIDE	PLANS, DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, AND EQUIPMENT FOR IMPROVEMENTS AND FIRE MITIGATION AT STATE PARKS; GROUND AND SITE IMPROVEMENTS; EQUIPMENT AND APPURTENANCES.	C			9,550,000			-			-			9,550,000	House concurs, adjusts FY	GM#2 - no change		
CIP	LNR806	H-3	STATE PARKS INFRASTRUCTURE AND PARK IMPROVEMENTS, LUMP SUM, STATEWIDE	DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF IMPROVEMENTS TO STATE PARKS (WAILUA RIVER SP, PUA'A KA'A SW, WAILOA RIVER SRA, KEOLONAHIHI SHP, KEAIWA HEIAU SRA), STATEWIDE. THIS PROJECT IS DEEMED NECESSARY TO QUALIFY FOR FEDERAL AID REIMBURSEMENT AND/OR FINANCING.	C			2,650,000			-			2,650,000			-	House concurs	no change		
CIP	LNR806	H-3	STATE PARKS INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS, LUMP SUM, STATEWIDE	DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF IMPROVEMENTS TO STATE PARKS (WAILUA RIVER SP, PUA'A KA'A SW, WAILOA RIVER SRA, KEOLONAHIHI SHP, KEAIWA HEIAU SRA), STATEWIDE. THIS PROJECT IS DEEMED NECESSARY TO QUALIFY FOR FEDERAL AID REIMBURSEMENT AND/OR FINANCING.	C						8,500,000			-			(8,500,000)	House deletes MOF C and replaces with MOF B	State Parks believes that the change of MOF from C to B will negatively impact the program as follows: 1. Given our operational expenditure plan for FY27 for our Special Funds, changing the MOF for the FY27 from C to B, will not allow for completion of multiple projects/priorities already in progress. 2. Because the itemized projects in the FY27 lump sum ask are predominantly to supplement existing CIP projects in progress, comingling of C and B funds will require additional Governor's approvals that may result in significant delays in implementation. 3. The net effect of the MOF change from C to B is to effectively reduce, by $8.5 million, DSPs ability to invest in necessary park improvements systemwide.	6	
CIP	LNR806	H-3	STATE PARKS INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS, LUMP SUM, STATEWIDE	DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF IMPROVEMENTS TO STATE PARKS (WAILUA RIVER SP, PUA'A KA'A SW, WAILOA RIVER SRA, KEOLONAHIHI SHP, KEAIWA HEIAU SRA), STATEWIDE. THIS PROJECT IS DEEMED NECESSARY TO QUALIFY FOR FEDERAL AID REIMBURSEMENT AND/OR FINANCING.	B									-			8,500,000	House deletes MOF C and replaces with MOF B	State Parks believes that the change of MOF from C to B will negatively impact the program as follows: 1. Given our operational expenditure plan for FY27 for our Special Funds, changing the MOF for the FY27 from C to B, will not allow for completion of multiple projects/priorities already in progress. 2. Because the itemized projects in the FY27 lump sum ask are predominantly for additives to existing CIP projects in progress, comingling of C and B funds will require additional Governor's approvals that may result in significant delays in implementation. 3. The net effect of the MOF change from C to B is to effectively reduce, by $8.5 million, DSPs ability to invest in necessary park improvements systemwide.		
CIP	LNR806	H-3	STATE PARKS INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS, LUMP SUM, STATEWIDE	DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF IMPROVEMENTS TO STATE PARKS (WAILUA RIVER SP, PUA'A KA'A SW, WAILOA RIVER SRA, KEOLONAHIHI SHP, KEAIWA HEIAU SRA), STATEWIDE. THIS PROJECT IS DEEMED NECESSARY TO QUALIFY FOR FEDERAL AID REIMBURSEMENT AND/OR FINANCING.	N			500,000			500,000			500,000			500,000	House concurs	no change		
CIP	LNR806	H-4	WAHIAWA FRESHWATER STATE RECREATION AREA PARK IMPROVEMENTS, OAHU	PLANS, DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, EQUIPMENT, AND FURNISHINGS FOR PARK IMPROVEMENTS, EXPANSION, AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF FACILITIES AT WAHIAWA FRESHWATER STATE RECREATION AREA. THIS PROJECT IS DEEMED NECESSARY TO QUALIFY FOR FEDERAL AID FINANCING AND/OR REIMBURSEMENT.	C			5,750,000			2,150,000			5,750,000			2,150,000	House concurs	no change		

FY27 SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET
HB1800 HD1 IMPACT STATEMENT - CIP
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

						GOV Budget, including GM#2 and GM#5						House Draft								
						FY26			FY27			FY26			FY27					
OP/CIP	ProgID	Item # (CIP)	Description of Request	Appropriation Description	MOF	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Pos (P)	Pos (T)	$$$	Description of Change in HD1	Impact of Change	Priority to Restore (1 = highest priority to restore funding to GOV budget)	Alternative Reduction for Any Opposed Reductions
CIP	LNR806	H-4	WAHIAWA FRESHWATER STATE RECREATION AREA PARK IMPROVEMENTS, OAHU	PLANS, DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, EQUIPMENT, AND FURNISHINGS FOR PARK IMPROVEMENTS, EXPANSION, AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF FACILITIES AT WAHIAWA FRESHWATER STATE RECREATION AREA. THIS PROJECT IS DEEMED NECESSARY TO QUALIFY FOR FEDERAL AID FINANCING AND/OR REIMBURSEMENT.	N			250,000			250,000			250,000			250,000	House concurs	no change		
CIP	LNR806	H-4.1	WAILUKU RIVER STATE PARK EXPANSION, HAWAII	PLANS, LAND ACQUISITION, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION FOR APPROXIMATELY 284 ACRES IDENTIFIED AS TMK (3)2-5-008:003, :025, :026, AND :027 IN HILO, HAWAII; THIS PROJECT IS DEEMED NECESSARY TO QUALIFY FOR FEDERAL AID FINANCING AND/OR REIMBURSEMENT.	C			-			3,500,000			-			3,500,000	House concurs	no change		
CIP	LNR806	H-4.1	WAILUKU RIVER STATE PARK EXPANSION, HAWAII	PLANS, LAND ACQUISITION, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION FOR APPROXIMATELY 284 ACRES IDENTIFIED AS TMK (3)2-5-008:003, :025, :026, AND :027 IN HILO, HAWAII; THIS PROJECT IS DEEMED NECESSARY TO QUALIFY FOR FEDERAL AID FINANCING AND/OR REIMBURSEMENT.	P			-			1,000			-			1,000	House concurs	no change		
CIP	LNR906	-	HAWAII PACIFIC UNIVERSITY HAWAII LOA CAMPUS ACQUISITION AND RENOVATION, OAHU	PLANS, LAND, DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION TO ACQUIRE AND RENOVATE THE APPROXIMATELY 132-ACRE PROPERTY FORMERLY OCCUPIED BY HAWAII PACIFIC UNIVERSITY'S HAWAII LOA CAMPUS TO CONSOLIDATE DLNR DIVISIONS CURRENTLY LEASING SPACE AROUND OAHU.	C			-			4,000,000			-			(4,000,000)	House deletes	DLNR would need these funds to supplement the on-going project to acquire and renovate the campus if the acquisition funds are reappropriated. These funds would be needed immediately because the campus needs renovations in order to be utilized by the Divisions, especially the snail and plant extinction prevention programs and the DOCARE Academy.	2	
CIP	LNR906	D-12.1	RED HILL REMEDIATION, OAHU	PLANS, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES AND MONITORING FOR RED HILL REMEDIATION; GROUND AND SITE IMPROVEMENTS; EQUIPMENT AND APPURTENANCES.	C			-			-			-			11,200,000	House adds	DLNR WAI appreciates the add and supports this request to fund priority initiatives, in collaboration with University of Hawai'i research teams, for remediation studies, environmental monitoring, groundwater modeling and sampling, and independent verification of water quality data needed to inform long-term remediation of Red Hill and protect Hawai'i's groundwater resources.		
				TOTAL - NEW REQUESTS				104,005,000			53,201,000			73,655,000			72,802,000				
				BY MOF																	
				Special Funds	B			3,200,000			-			3,200,000			8,500,000				
				General Obligation Bonds	C			100,055,000			52,450,000			69,705,000			63,551,000				
				Federal Funds	N			750,000			750,000			750,000			750,000				
				Other Federal Funds	P			-			1,000			-			1,000				
				TOTAL				104,005,000			53,201,000			73,655,000			72,802,000				

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA

GOV. MSG. NO. 5

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

MAR - 2 2026

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi,
President and Members of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

✓The Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura,
Speaker and Members of the House
of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Aloha President Kouchi, Speaker Nakamura and Members of the Legislature:

Transmitted herewith are proposed changes to the FY 27 Executive Supplemental Budget for the operating and capital improvement program (CIP) budget requests, as applicable, for the Departments of Human Services (HMS), Land and Natural Resources (LNR), Transportation (TRN) and the University of Hawai'i (UOH). Amendments to CIP and provisos are also proposed.

Your favorable consideration would be appreciated for the following budget requests to amend the FY 27 Executive Supplemental Budget.

1. Adjustments to the Operating Budget Request:

   The following budget requests are being proposed to update amounts requested in the operating budget:

   Department of Human Services

   Health Care Payments – Fee-For-Service Payments (HMS 401/PE)

   Add $16,500,000 in general funds in FY 27 to cover costs from the expiration of the enhanced Affordable Care Act tax credits for individuals that qualify for Cost Share Reductions.

Department of Land and Natural Resources

Public Lands Management – Land Management Division (LNR 101/EA)

Add $7,000,000 in special funds in FY 27 to increase the expenditure ceiling for land management activities that include hazardous material remediation, debris removal, and tree trimming.

Department of Transportation

Ellison Onizuka Kona International Airport at Keahole (TRN 114/BE)

Reduce $143,481 in special funds in FY 27 to withdraw the request to redescribe a vacant position (Visitor Information Program Assistant (VIPA) II) to three new positions (Painter II, Electrician I, and Airport Maintenance Repairer I).

Trade-off 3.00 permanent full-time equivalent (FTE) positions and $336,672 in special funds from fringe and collective bargaining to fund and redescribe 3.00 permanent VIPA II positions to 1.00 permanent Painter II, 1.00 permanent Electrician I, and 1.00 permanent Airport Maintenance Repairer I positions.

Airports Administration (TRN 195/BB)

Add $2,500,000 in special funds in FY 27 to implement the Seamless Border Entry to streamline and speed up the customs clearance experience for travelers and increase funds pertaining to the ongoing maintenance and software licensing.

Add $500,000 in special funds in FY 27 to support the continued implementation and expansion of the Internship and Workforce Development Program (IWDP), including resources for coordination, program administration, participant support, and other related improvements throughout the airports statewide.

Harbors Administration (TRN 395/CB)

Add $200,000 in special funds in FY 27 to support the continued implementation and expansion of IWDP, including resources for coordination, program administration, participant support, and other related improvements.

Hawai'i Highways – Hawai'i District (TRN 511/DD)

Add $15,000 in special funds in FY 27 to support the continued implementation and expansion of the IWDP, including resources for coordination, program administration, participant support, and other related improvements.

Maui Highways – Maui District (TRN 531/DF)

Transfer $83,328 in special funds from payroll savings to personal services in FY 27 to fund a General Laborer II position.

Add $35,000 in special funds in FY 27 to support the continued implementation and expansion of IWDP, including resources for coordination, program administration, participant support, and other related improvements.

Highways Administration (TRN 595/DA)

Transfer in 1.00 permanent FTE position (Highway Landscape Architect) and $165,000 in special funds from General Administration (TRN 995/AA) in FY 27 to more appropriately align the budget with program operations.

Reduce 4.00 permanent FTE positions (2.00 Highways Administration Engineer IV, 1.00 Highways Administration Land Boundary Surveyor IV, and 1.00 Highways Administration Land Surveyor II positions) and $510,030 in special funds in FY 27 for a trade-off/transfer to establish 4.00 new permanent FTE positions (1.00 Highway Safety Manager, 1.00 Program Specialist V, and 2.00 Information Specialist III positions) in Highways Safety (TRN 597/AB) to support the Automated Red Light and Speed Enforcement Program (ARLSEP) and to provide dedicated assistance with federal compliance requirements.

Highways Administration (TRN 595/DB)

Add $240,000 in special funds in FY 27 for Systems, Applications, and Products in Data Processing consulting services to provide specialized technical expertise to support initial version upgrade, review and test version upgrade deliverables, and ensure a seamless transition that preserves system functionality and data integrity.

Add $201,000 in special funds in FY 27 to support the continued implementation and expansion of IWDP, including resources for coordination, program administration, participant support, and other related improvements.

Reduce $3,283,087 in special funds in FY 27 to withdraw the request in FY 27 to provide additional State Highway special funds (SHSF) for the Automated Speed Enforcement Program (ASEP).

Reduce $790,500 in special funds in FY 27 to withdraw the request in FY 27 to provide additional funding for the 5% surcharge payment to Central Services as required by Chapter 36-28, HRS, for the ASEP Special Fund (ASEPSF).

Reduce $3,283,087 in special funds in FY 27 to withdraw the request in FY 27 to provide additional SHSF for the Photo Red Light Imaging Detector System (PRLIDS).

Reduce $172,422 in special funds in FY 27 to withdraw the request in FY 27 to provide funding for the 5% surcharge payment to Central Services as required by Chapter 36-28, HRS, for the Photo Red Light Imaging Detector Systems Special Fund (PRLIDSSF).

Highways Safety – Motor Vehicle Safety Office (TRN 597/AB)

Add 4.00 new permanent FTE positions (1.00 Highway Safety Manager, 1.00 Program Specialist V, and 2.00 FTE Information Specialist III positions) and $510,030 in special funds in FY 27 to support the ARLSEP and to provide dedicated assistance with federal compliance requirements. Equivalent FTE positions and funds are being traded off/transferred from Highways Administration (TRN 595/DA).

Add $3,283,087 in special funds in FY 27 to provide additional SHSF for ASEP.

Add $790,500 in special funds in FY 27 to provide additional funding for the 5% surcharge payment to Central Services as required by Chapter 3628, HRS, for the ASEPSF.

Add $3,283,087 in special funds in FY 27 to provide additional SHSF for the PRLIDS.

Add $172,422 in special funds in FY 27 to provide funding for the 5% surcharge payment to Central Services as required by Chapter 36-28, HRS, for the PRLIDSSF.

Aloha Tower Development Corporation (TRN 695/AC)

Reduce 1.00 permanent FTE position and $221,400 in special funds in other current expenses and add 1.00 temporary FTE position and $221,400 in special funds in personal services in FY 27 to convert the Aloha Tower Development Corporation Program Specialist to a temporary position, which will provide flexibility to respond to the changes associated with development and management demands.

General Administration – Departmental Administration (TRN 995/AA)

Add $231,000 in special funds in FY 27 to increase payment to the Transportation Division of the Department of the Attorney General for services of one additional Deputy Attorney General.

Transfer out 1.00 permanent FTE position (Highway Landscape Architect) and $165,000 in special funds in FY 27 to Highways Administration (TRN 595/DA) to more appropriately align the budget with program operations.

Transfer $61,632 in special funds out from other personal services in FY 27 to support the reclassification of a Human Resources Assistant (HRA) V to a Departmental Program Officer (DPO) (Workforce Development (WD)).

Transfer $61,632 in special funds into personal services in FY 27 to support the reclassification of a HRA V to a DPO (WD).

University of Hawai'i

University of Hawai'i (UH), Mānoa – Student Services – Mānoa (UOH 100/AE)

Add $5,000,000 in general funds in FY 27 to establish an institutional Name, Image, and Likeness Program to recruit and retain elite student-athletes.

UH, Cancer Center (CC) – Organized Research – UH, CC (UOH 115/AR)

Add $5,000,000 in general funds in FY 27 to support salaries and operating expenses of UHCC.

2. Adjustment to Update CIP Requests:

   The following budget request is being proposed to update amounts requested in the CIP budget:

   Department of Land and Natural Resources

   Public Lands Management (LNR 101)

   Add $14,000,000 in general obligation (G.O.) bond funds in FY 27 for land acquisition to acquire the approximately 132-acre property formerly occupied by Hawai'i Pacific University's Hawai'i Loa Campus to consolidate the LNR divisions currently leasing space around O'ahu and to support other LNR programs.

   Public Lands Management (LNR 101)

   Add $2,500,000 in G.O. bond funds in FY 27 for Plans, Design, and Construction for off-street multi-modal pathways through Waimānalo from Olomana golf course to Sandy Beach Park.

   Conservation and Resources Enforcement (LNR 405)

   Amend project description and title for Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) Hawai'i Branch Office Building Renovation, Hawai'i, to amend the scope from renovation to replacement of the office building.

3. Amendment to CIP Provisos:

   Department of Land and Natural Resources

   Public Lands Management (LNR 101)

   Amend Section 7 of House Bill No. 1800 (Senate Bill No. 2500) to lapse $14,000,000 in G.O. bond funds for the FY 25 appropriation for Public Land Acquisition and Improvements, O'ahu, Item No. K-5.1 of Act 164, SLH 2023, as amended by Act 230, SLH 2024.

Thank you for your tireless work on behalf of the State of Hawai'i. Your favorable consideration of these budget and proviso requests is greatly appreciated.

Mahalo,

Josh Green, M.D.
Governor, State of Hawai'i

Attachment

c: Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz
Honorable Chris T. Todd

OPERATING

The following operating budget amendments to the FY 27 Executive Supplemental Budget are requested:

Department of Human Services

Health Care Payments – Fee-For-Service Payments (HMS 401/PE)

Add $16,500,000 in general funds in FY 27 to cover costs from the expiration of the enhanced Affordable Care Act tax credits for individuals that qualify for Cost Share Reductions.

	FY 2026	FY 2027
Other Current Expenses	$..... A	$16,500,000 A

Department of Land and Natural Resources

Public Lands Management – Land Management Division (LNR 101/EA)

Add $7,000,000 in special funds in FY 27 to increase the expenditure ceiling for land management activities that include hazardous material remediation, debris removal, and tree trimming.

	FY 2026	FY 2027
Other Current Expenses	$..... B	$7,000,000 B

Department of Transportation

Ellison Onizuka Kona International Airport at Keahole (TRN 114/BE)

Reduce $143,481 in special funds in FY 27 to withdraw the request in FY 27 to redescribe a vacant position (Visitor Information Program Assistant (VIPA) II) to three new positions (Painter II, Electrician I, and Airport Maintenance Repairer I).

	FY 2026	FY 2027
Personal Services	$..... B	$(143,481) B

Trade-off 3.00 permanent full-time equivalent (FTE) positions and $336,672 in special funds from fringe and collective bargaining to fund and redescribe 3.00 permanent VIPA II positions to 1.00 permanent Painter II, 1.00 permanent Electrician I, and 1.00 permanent Airport Maintenance Repairer I positions.

	FY 2026	FY 2027
Personal Services	$..... B	$..... B

Airports Administration (TRN 195/BB)

Add $2,500,000 in special funds in FY 27 to implement the Seamless Border Entry to streamline and speed up the customs clearance experience for travelers and increase funds pertaining to the ongoing maintenance and software licensing.

	FY 2026	FY 2027
Other Current Expenses	$..... B	$2,500,000 B

Add $500,000 in special funds in FY 27 to support the continued implementation and expansion of the Internship and Workforce Development Program (IWDP), including resources for coordination, program administration, participant support, and other related improvements throughout the airports statewide.

	FY 2026	FY 2027
Other Current Expenses	$..... B	$500,000 B

Harbors Administration (TRN 395/CB)

Add $200,000 in special funds in FY 27 to support the continued implementation and expansion of IWDP, including resources for coordination, program administration, participant support, and other related improvements.

	FY 2026	FY 2027
Personal Services	$..... B	$150,000 B
Other Current Expenses	$..... B	$ 50,000 B

Hawai'i Highways – Hawai'i District (TRN 511/DD)

Add $15,000 in special funds in FY 27 to support the continued implementation and expansion of the IWDP, including resources for coordination, program administration, participant support, and other related improvements.

	FY 2026	FY 2027
Personal Services	$..... B	$15,000 B

Maui Highways – Maui District (TRN 531/DF)

Transfer $83,328 in special funds from payroll savings to personal services in FY 27 to fund a General Laborer II position.

	FY 2026	FY 2027
Personal Services	$..... B	$..... B

Add $35,000 in special funds in FY 27 to support the continued implementation and expansion of IWDP, including resources for coordination, program administration, participant support, and other related improvements.

	FY 2026	FY 2027
Personal Services	$..... B	$35,000 B

Highways Administration (TRN 595/DA)

Transfer in 1.00 permanent FTE position (Highway Landscape Architect) and $165,000 in special funds from General Administration (TRN 995/AA) in FY 27 to more appropriately align the budget with program operations.

	FY 2026	FY 2027
	..... B	1.00 B Perm
Personal Services	$..... B	$165,000 B

Reduce 4.00 permanent FTE positions (2.00 Highways Administration Engineer IV, 1.00 Highways Administration Land Boundary Surveyor IV, and 1.00 Highways Administration Land Surveyor II positions) and $510,030 in special funds in FY 27 for a trade-off/transfer to establish 4.00 new permanent FTE positions (1.00 Highway Safety Manager, 1.00 Program Specialist V, and 2.00 Information Specialist III positions) in Highways Safety (TRN 597/AB) to support the Automated Red Light and Speed Enforcement Program (ARLSEP) and to provide dedicated assistance with federal compliance requirements.

	FY 2026	FY 2027
	..... B	(4.00) B Perm
Personal Services	$..... B	$(510,030) B

Highways Administration (TRN 595/DB)

Add $240,000 in special funds in FY 27 for Systems, Applications, and Products in Data Processing consulting services to provide specialized technical expertise to support initial version upgrade, review and test version upgrade deliverables, and ensure a seamless transition that preserves system functionality and data integrity.

	FY 2026	FY 2027
Other Current Expenses	$..... B	$240,000 B

Add $201,000 in special funds in FY 27 to support the continued implementation and expansion of IWDP, including resources for coordination, program administration, participant support, and other related improvements.

	FY 2026	FY 2027
Personal Services	$..... B	$ 65,000 B
Other Current Expenses	$..... B	$ 36,000 B
Equipment	$..... B	$100,000 B

Reduce $3,283,087 in special funds in FY 27 to withdraw the request in FY 27 to provide additional State Highway special funds (SHSF) for the Automated Speed Enforcement Program (ASEP).

	FY 2026	FY 2027
Other Current Expenses	$..... B	$(3,283,087) B

Reduce $790,500 in special funds in FY 27 to withdraw the request in FY 27 to provide additional funding for the 5% surcharge payment to Central Services as required by Chapter 36-28, HRS, for the ASEP Special Fund (ASEPSF).

	FY 2026	FY 2027
Other Current Expenses	$..... B	$(790,500) B

Reduce $3,283,087 in special funds in FY 27 to withdraw the request in FY 27 to provide additional SHSF for the Photo Red Light Imaging Detector System (PRLIDS).

	FY 2026	FY 2027
Other Current Expenses	$..... B	$(3,283,087) B

Reduce $172,422 in special funds in FY 27 to withdraw the request in FY 27 to provide funding for the 5% surcharge payment to Central Services as required by Chapter 36-28, HRS, for the Photo Red Light Imaging Detector Systems Special Fund (PRLIDSSF).

	FY 2026	FY 2027
Other Current Expenses	$..... B	$(172,422) B

Highways Safety – Motor Vehicle Safety Office (TRN 597/AB)

Add 4.00 new permanent FTE positions (1.00 Highway Safety Manager, 1.00 Program Specialist V, and 2.00 FTE Information Specialist III positions) and $510,030 in special funds in FY 27 to support the ARLSEP and to provide dedicated assistance with federal compliance requirements. Equivalent FTE positions and funds are being traded off/transferred from Highways Administration (TRN 595/DA).

	FY 2026	FY 2027
	..... B	4.00 B Perm
Personal Services	$..... B	$510,030 B

Add $3,283,087 in special funds in FY 27 to provide additional SHSF for ASEP.

	FY 2026	FY 2027
Other Current Expenses	$..... B	$3,283,087 B

Add $790,500 in special funds in FY 27 to provide additional funding for the 5% surcharge payment to Central Services as required by Chapter 36-28, HRS, for the ASEPSF.

	FY 2026	FY 2027
Other Current Expenses	$..... B	$790,500 B

Add $3,283,087 in special funds in FY 27 to provide additional SHSF for the PRLIDS.

	FY 2026	FY 2027
Other Current Expenses	$..... B	$3,283,087 B

Add $172,422 in special funds in FY 27 to provide funding for the 5% surcharge payment to Central Services as required by Chapter 36-28, HRS, for the PRLIDSSF.

	FY 2026	FY 2027
Other Current Expenses	$..... B	$172,422 B

Aloha Tower Development Corporation (TRN 695/AC)

Reduce 1.00 permanent FTE position and $221,400 in special funds in other current expenses and add 1.00 temporary FTE position and $221,400 in special funds in personal services in FY 27 to convert the Aloha Tower Development Corporation Program Specialist to a temporary position, which will provide flexibility to respond to the changes associated with development and management demands.

	FY 2026	FY 2027
	..... B	(1.00) B Perm
	..... B	1.00 B Temp
Personal Services	$..... B	$ 221,400 B
Other Current Expenses	$..... B	$(221,400) B

General Administration – Departmenta l Administration (TRN 995/AA)

Add $231,000 in special funds in FY 27 to increase payment to the Transportation Division of the Department of the Attorney General for services of one additional Deputy Attorney General.

	FY 2026	FY 2027
Other Current Expenses	$..... B	$ 231,000 B

Transfer out 1.00 permanent FTE position (Highway Landscape Architect) and $165,000 in special funds in FY 27 to Highways Administration (TRN 595/DA) to more appropriately align the budget with program operations.

	FY 2026	FY 2027
	..... B	(1.00) B Perm
Personal Services	$..... B	$(165,000) B

Transfer $61,632 in special funds out from other personal services in FY 27 to support the reclassification of a Human Resources Assistant (HRA) V to a Departmental Program Officer (DPO) (Workforce Development (WD)).

	FY 2026	FY 2027
Personal Services	$..... B	$(61,632) B

Transfer $61,632 in special funds into personal services in FY 27 to support the reclassification of a HRA V to a DPO (WD).

	FY 2026	FY 2027
Personal Services	$..... B	$ 61,632 B

University of Hawai'i

University of Hawai'i (UH), Mānoa – Student Services – Mānoa (UOH 100/AE)

Add $5,000,000 in general funds in FY 27 to establish an institutional Name, Image, and Likeness Program to recruit and retain elite student-athletes.

	FY 2026	FY 2027
Other Current Expenses	$..... A	$5,000,000 A

UH, Cancer Center (CC) – Organized Research – UH, CC (UOH 115/AR)

Add $5,000,000 in general funds in FY 27 to support salaries and operating expenses of UHCC.

	FY 2026	FY 2027
Personal Services	$..... A	$2,500,000 A
Other Current Expenses	$..... A	$2,500,000 A

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The following capital improvement program budget amendments (amounts are in thousands) to the FY 27 Executive Supplemental Budget are requested:

Department of Land and Natural Resources

LNR 101 PUBLIC LANDS MANAGEMENT

By adding a new item:

"PUBLIC LAND ACQUISITION, OAHU

LAND ACQUISITION TO ACQUIRE AN APPROXIMATELY 132-ACRE PROPERTY AND EXISTING STRUCTURES FORMERLY OCCUPIED BY HAWAII PACIFIC UNIVERISTY HAWAII LOA CAMPUS ON OAHU (TMK: (1) 4-5-035:010) FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

		FY 2026	FY 2027
LAND ACQUISITION			14,000
TOTAL FUNDING LNR		C	14,000 C"

LNR 101 PUBLIC LANDS MANAGEMENT

By adding a new item:

"WAIMANALO PATHWAYS, OAHU

PLANS, DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION FOR OFF-STREET MULTI-MODAL PATHWAYS THROUGH WAIMANALO FROM OLOMANA GOLF COURSE TO SANDY BEACH PARK.

		FY 2026	FY 2027
PLANS			1
DESIGN			1
CONSTRUCTION			2,498
TOTAL FUNDING LNR		C	2,500 C"

LNR 405 CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT

By amending Item No. D-12.00 as follows:

"12.00 DOCARE HAWAII BRANCH OFFICE BUILDING REPLACEMENT[~~RENOVATION~~], HAWAII

DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION FOR [~~THE RENOVATION~~]REPLACEMENT OF THE [~~DOCARE HAWAII BRANCH~~]OFFICE BUILDING AND RELATED WORK DUE TO SEVERE TERMITE INFESTATION AND [~~RESULTING IN~~]MAJOR STRUCTURAL DAMAGE[~~ TO THE STRUCTURE, INCLUDING INTERIOR WALLS, SUPPORT BEAMS, DOORS, AND RELATED WORK~~].

	FY 2026	FY 2027
DESIGN	1	999
CONSTRUCTION	1,999	1
TOTAL FUNDING LNR	2,000 C	1,000 C"

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM PROVISOS

The following amendments to the capital improvement program provisos of the FY 27 Executive Supplemental Budget are requested.

House Bill No. 1800 (Senate Bill No. 2500), Section 7, is amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 7. Part VI of Act 250, Session Laws of Hawaii 2025, is amended by amending Section 15 to read as follows:

"SECTION 15. Any law to the contrary notwithstanding, the appropriations under Act 164, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023, section 7, as amended and renumbered by Act 230, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024, section 7, in the amounts indicated or balances thereof, unallotted, allotted, unencumbered, or encumbered and unrequired, are hereby lapsed:

"Item No.	Amount (MOF)
A-2	$ 400,000 A
A-8	405,000 A
A-15	4,500,000 A
D-12	2,000,000 A
E-2	650,000 A
E-13	12,000,000 A
E-14	1,711,745 A
E-14.1	4,200,000 C
E-17	13,557,000 C
E-18	2,000,000 A
F-3	1,100,000 A
G-6	[$] 500,000 C
G-9.3	671,000 C
G-14.3	660,000 C
G-15.3	1,000,000 C
G-24	2,500,000 C
G-25.1	350,000 C
G-30.1	6,950,000 C
G-36	21,000 C
G-46	6,000,000 C
G-52	2,500,000 C
G-53.2	100,000 C
G-54.1	2,000,000 C
G-61.1	1,000,000 C
G-64	130,000 C
G-70.1	500,000 C
G-78.2	4,000,000 C
G-79.2	150,000 C
G-86.1	1,000,000 C
G-92.1	650,000 C

G-98	200,000	C
G-99.2	1,320,000	C
G-111.2	650,000	C
G-112	3,000,000	C
G-112.1	200,000	C
G-113	1,500,000	C
G-113.2	1,680,000	C
G-113.3	1,000,000	C
G-119	100,000	C
G-121	275,000	A
G-140.2	500,000	C
H-2	2,500,000	A
I-10	1,500,000	A
K-5.1	14,000,000	C
K-8	10,500,000	A""

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

KEITH T. HAYASHI
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAI`I
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
KA ʻOIHANA HOʻONAʻAUAO
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAI`I 96804

Date: 04/01/2026
Time: 10:00 AM
Location: CR 211 & Videoconference
Committee: WAM

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB1800, HD1, RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET.

Purpose of Bill: Adjusts and requests appropriations for fiscal biennium 20252027 funding requirements for operations and capital improvement projects of Executive Branch agencies and programs. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

Department's Position:

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports HB 1800, HD 1 with concerns.

First off, the Department is grateful for the hard work of our school leaders, facilities crews, and staff during the recent heavy rains and floods. Providing and maintaining safe environments for our students and staff is of the utmost importance. The Department continues to fully assess damage, make repairs, and support schools as they resume operations.

We recognize that the storm's effects will affect upcoming budget discussions. A number of Department schools have been affected. The most common issues include roof leaks and water intrusion into classrooms, followed by downed trees, debris and localized flooding. While many campuses experienced minor to moderate impacts, some schools report more extensive damage.

<u>Operating Budget:</u>
With regard to HB 1800, HD 1, the Department appreciates that its general fund operating budget is no longer in the negative as initially proposed by the FY 2027 Supplemental Budget. The House did not concur with the $30 million reduction in preventative maintenance. This reduction was the cause for the operating budget being in the negative. In addition, the House included $5,065,646 for general fund requests.

HB 1800, HD 1 also includes $1 placeholders meant for further discussion. These placeholders are for requests related to health and safety or critical infrastructure. Details for these requests and impact statements were previously submitted to Committee staff.

The table below summarizes the $1 general fund placeholders and the amount of funding requested for each item, totaling $13,745,908 for FY 2027, along with impact statements. The Department respectfully seeks support for these:

Request	EDN	SEQ#	HB1800 HD1 $ Amount	Dept. Request $ Amount	Impact Statement
ADD FUNDS FOR REFUSE DISPOSAL	EDN400	1100-001	$1	$5,000,000	Failure to adequately fund these contracts will result in an accumulation of trash at our schools which will have numerous health, safety and public perception issues.
ADD FUNDS FOR R&M AIR CONDITIONING MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS	EDN400	1101-001	$1	$4,250,000	If denied, our existing air conditioning systems will not be maintained and will begin failing causing classroom temperatures to rise, directly impacting student learning environments.
ADD FUNDS FOR IT SOFTWARE AND PROGRAM SUPPORT FOR R&M AND CIP PROJECTS	EDN400	1103-001	$1	$4,250,000	If funding to maintain the current Information Technology (IT) systems and support for Repair & Maintenance (R&M) and Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) is not provided, the Department may lose the ability to monitor projects and access data in a timely manner to respond to facilities project inquiries and provide justification for funding which will ultimately delay the completion of needed facility improvements.
ADD FUNDS FOR HAZARDOUS MATERIAL (HAZMAT) DISPOSAL	EDN400	1102-001	$1	$100,000	The accumulation of electronic smoking devices (ESD) on school campuses have caused a hazardous material (HAZMAT) situation and must be promptly disposed of in accordance with State of Hawaii Department of Health guidance to avoid potential fines. Delayed removal of these hazardous materials creates a health and safety risk for students and staff at schools across the state.
ADD FUNDS FOR ONGOING IMPLEMENTATION OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAM	EDN100	1100-001	$1	$100,000	If this request is denied, it would hinder the implementation of this critical preventive program that protects students from sexual violence. Both middle and high school Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) data in 2023 indicate an upward trend in sexual violence experiences (High School - currently at 11% with a 2% increase from 2021, Middle School - currently at 7.8%

					with a 1.5% increase from 2021).
ADD 1.00 PERM FTE AND FUNDS FOR INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT PROGRAM	EDN400	1104-001	$1	$45,908	The U.S. EPA recommends that all school districts implement a policy addressing the safest possible use of pesticides and the implementation of a coordinated Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program as part of a long-term and sustainable approach to mitigating pests and their impacts on children's health. IPM is a legal requirement for schools in several states including California, Texas, New Jersey and Illinois. Hawaii Public Schools currently have no functional IPM program. IPM uses preventive measures to reduce the number of pests, lower pesticide use, mitigate asthma triggers, improve learning environments, and can save schools money by decreasing pest control costs. Training outreach to schools enables schools to engage in sustaining healthier environments.
TOTAL			**$6**	**$13,745,908**	

The measure also includes an amended appropriation for regional kitchens of 26.00 permanent FTE and $1,065,640 in general funds for FY 2027 that the Department requested (original request was for 26.00 perm FTE and $1,640,917). The Department also respectfully asks for support for this request at the level contained in HB 1800, HD 1.

Regarding the $30 million restored for preventive maintenance, the Department appreciates the support to fund this need with general funds. If the financial plan cannot accommodate the $30 million in sustained support in the operating budget, the Department asks for $15 million in the Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) budget for preventative maintenance and $14,811,548 to fund our other general fund requests in the operating budget (full funding for the $1 placeholders and the amended funding for the regional kitchen).

Additionally, HB 1800, HD 1 includes appropriations for a few positions, trade-off/transfers, and revolving fund ceiling increases. The Department also respectfully requests support for these.

<u>Green Fee Operating Request:</u>
HB 1800, HD 1 also includes $4 million in general funds for FY 2027 for brush / vegetation management in order to reduce wildfire risk, improve drainage, and maintain defensible space around the Department's schools. This request was recommended by the Green Fee Advisory Council and submitted via a Governor's Message. Act 96, SLH 2025 established the State's climate impact fee, known as the "Green Fee," that provides dedicated funding for environmental and infrastructure initiatives. The Department respectfully requests support for this request at the level contained in HB 1800, HD 1.

<u>Potential Reductions to the Operating Budget:</u>

If the Committee is considering potential budget reductions to the operating budget due to funding needs for storm recovery efforts, Hawaii State Board of Education (Board) Policy 400-4 requires that reductions to the Department's budget are specified as aggregate or lump sum amounts.

In addition, the principles of the policy need to be followed to ensure: (1) that all students will continue to receive equal opportunities for all educational programs or services; (2) that the well-being of students are protected; and (3) that all judicially- and legally-mandated programs and services are preserved.

Instead of implementing reductions, the Department respectfully asks the Committee to keep the Department's budget whole. This intact budget is necessary to provide the resources required for the Department to address its own storm-related needs, and thereby helping to ensure the continued protection and well-being of our students.

Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Budget:
As with the operating budget, the Department supports HB 1800, HD 1 with concerns and would appreciate CIP funding in the amounts approved by the Board.

The Department's CIP request is significant because the Department manages over 21.5 million square feet of K-12 education facilities with an average age over 65 years across 258 sites statewide. To improve the execution of the Department's CIP and meet the needs of students across all islands in the most effective and expedient manner, the Department has shifted to a proactive, risk-assessment based approach to address its facilities and infrastructure needs requirements. Most of our CIP budget is now organized into categories or "lump-sum buckets". These lump-sum buckets allow the Department to manage and execute projects with greater efficiency and flexibility to meet the growing education needs of schools, staff and students while also satisfying the requirements of federal or legal mandates. Aside from critical infrastructure and as part of a targeted modernization initiative, the Department has also requested two line items to support the regional kitchen project.

This CIP budget is the Department's renewed effort to manage a more fiscally responsible, targeted and sustainable strategy by making a clear distinction between "needs" and "wants" to address the facility and infrastructure requirements of a constantly evolving and dynamic public education system.

The table below summarizes the Department's FY 2027 Supplemental CIP budget proposal. The means of financing (i.e. source of funds) is general obligation bond funds (MOF C) unless otherwise noted.

Department of Education Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Supplemental Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 (FY 2027)				
Costs in Thousands, EDN 100, MOF C (general obligation bond funds, unless noted otherwise)				
Prioritized List of CIP Projects			**FY 2027**	**FY 2027**
			Act 250/ SLH25	**Add'l Request**
School	**Project**	**Sub category**	**Appropriated**	**Project cost**
DEFERRED MAINTENANCE PROGRAM			**$0**	**$200,000**
FEDERAL GRANTS			**$150,000**	**$0**
Hickam Elementary School	Campus Improvements (qualifies for federal $)		$16,500	

		(MOF P)	$66,000	
Lehua Elementary School	Campus Improvements (qualifies for federal $)		$13,500	
		(MOF P)	$54,000	
HEALTH & SAFETY			**$0**	**$50,000**
PLANNING, DESIGN AND LAND ACQUISITION			**$0**	**$6,000**
Various Schools, Statewide	Planning, Design, Site Studies, Land Acquisition	Planning		$2,000
Various Schools, Statewide	Facility Asset Management Update, Statewide	Planning		$4,000
CAPACITY			**$0**	**$288,308**
East Kapolei Elementary School	New School			$142,028
	(partial use of Fair Share funds)	(MOF X)		$3,972
King Kamehameha III Elementary School	Replacement School	New School		$141,000
Koa Ridge Elementary School	New School (start design w/ Fair Share funds)	(MOF X)		$1,308
TEMPORARY FACILITIES			**$0**	**$3,000**
Keonepoko Elementary School	Additional Portables with Covered Walkways	Kaiapuni Program		$3,000
INSTRUCTIONAL			**$0**	**$20,000**
Waialua High & Intermediate School	New Music Building	Instructional		$20,000
SUPPORT FACILITIES			**$0**	**$68,200**
Kohala High School	Gymnasium	Support		$39,000
Helemano Elementary School	Administration/Library	Support		$25,500
Nanakuli High & Intermediate School	Baseball Field Improvements	Support		$3,700
COMPLIANCE			**$0**	**$60,950**
Various Schools, Statewide	ADA Improvements	ADA		$2,600
Various Schools, Statewide	Gender Equity Improvements	Gender Equity		$2,250
Jarrett Middle School	ADA Improvements (OCR)	ADA		$3,800
Leilehua High School	ADA Improvements (CTE)	ADA		$4,000
Waiakea High School	Girls Athletic Locker Room	Gender Equity		$14,100
Waipahu High School	ADA Improvements (CTE)	ADA		$800
Castle High School	Softball Field Improvements	Gender Equity		$6,300
Maui High School	Softball Stadium Improvements	Gender Equity		$7,300
Kaimuki High School	Softball Field Improvements	Gender Equity		$3,100
Leilehua High School	Girls Athletic Locker Room	Gender Equity		$7,000
Hana High & Elementary School	Girls Athletic Locker Room	Gender Equity		$4,800
Waianae High School	Softball Field Improvements	Gender Equity		$4,000
Honokaa High & Intermediate School	Girls Athletic Locker Room	Gender Equity		$900
PROJECT COMPLETION			**$0**	**$50,000**
Various Schools, Statewide	Project Contingencies			$35,000

Various Schools, Statewide	Construction Management Services			$13,000
Various Schools, Statewide	Furniture and Equipment			$2,000
TELECOMMUNICATION INFRASTRUCTURE			**$0**	**$7,900**
Baldwin High School	Telecommunication Upgrades			$1,940
Fern Elementary School	Telecommunication Upgrades			$810
Kalihi Waena Elementary School	Telecommunication Upgrades			$765
Pauoa Elementary School	Telecommunication Upgrades			$670
Pomaikai Elementary School	Telecommunication Upgrades			$815
Koloa Elementary School	Telecommunication Upgrades			$1,060
Wilcox Elementary School	Telecommunication Upgrades			$590
Kalaheo Elementary School	Telecommunication Upgrades			$1,250
LINE ITEMS			**$16,500**	**$30,000**
Various Schools, Statewide	Expansion of Regional Kitchens, Statewide		$16,500	
Various Schools, Leilehua-Mililani-Waialua Complex Area	Kitchen Retrofits to Support the Regional Kitchen			$30,000
		Subtotal MOF C	**$46,500**	**$779,078**
		Subtotal MOF P	**$120,000**	
		Subtotal MOF X		**$5,280**
		Total FY 2027 Budget (Act 250/SLH2025 and Additional Request)	**$166,500**	**$784,358**
		Total Supplemental Budget =	**$950,858**	

Conclusion:

Investment in public education stands at a critical crossroad during periods of economic downturns and uncertainty. K-12 education, unlike other critical government services, is the state's investment in its future. What may be considered short-term divestments in education — one, two, or even three years — to address budget constraints, have long-term impacts on a generation of students. These young people graduate high school and mature into adults who will make decisions about whether they will live in Hawaii and how they will contribute to our community and economic future.

The Department, together with families and communities, envisions every graduate as a lifelong learner who is globally competitive and locally committed. Graduates will:

- Apply academic knowledge and an innovative mindset to think critically, communicate effectively, and create impactful contributions in the pursuit of excellence.
- Be resilient and adaptable to an ever-changing world. Graduates will take initiative in charting their next steps to advance their life journey - such as in postsecondary education, career, enterprise, service or exploration.
- Cultivate well-being and compassion, care for self and others, and build deep roots in Hawaii to fulfill their kuleana and strengthen their community.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and for your continued support of public education.

Green Fee Advisory Council

To: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means (WAM)

From: Carmela Resuma, Member
Green Fee Advisory Council (GFAC)
HB1800 – Relating to Green Fee Appropriations – Support with Comments
[Wednesday, 04-01-26 / 10:00 AM / Conference Room 211]

Aloha Chair Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Sharon Moriwaki, and Members of the WAM Committee,

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify **in support of** the Green Fee appropriations and the Council's Year 1 recommendations.

The Green Fee Advisory Council, is a group of unpaid volunteers charged with two tasks:

1. develop a process and criteria for evaluating project proposals for potential Green Fee funding; and
2. provide a list of funding priorities to Governor Green for inclusion in the Executive Supplemental Budget – the latter of which is a stipulation of Act 96.

Submitting a list of funding project priorities **not specific organizations** is the task the Legislature required of the Governor, and by association the GFAC. To move this package forward the GFAC defers to the Legislature's authority and expertise to determine the most appropriate implementation pathway to achieve the Green Fee's intent and impact.

The Council's work was grounded in community input from across the pae ʻāina, including more than 500 public ideas submitted through the Public Ideas Portal and 100 proposals submitted by State Departments. Importantly, the intent of this public process was to surface ideas, priorities, and project themes – not to identify or pre-select specific implementing entities. That input helped shape a portfolio that reflects real and urgent needs on the ground, from wildfire mitigation to watershed protection to coastal resilience.

Given the limited timeframe **(approximately two months, due to constraints outside of the Council's control)** this process was necessarily focused on identifying priority investments, rather than conducting a full and equitable procurement process, which would require additional time for application development, criteria setting, community outreach, evaluation, and selection.

At the same time, the Council made an intentional decision that is important to underscore today: **we did not designate specific implementing organizations**. This approach was essential to maintaining fairness and ensuring that opportunities are not limited to a predefined group of entities. Because a comprehensive procurement process could not be completed within the available timeframe,

pre-selecting recipients would have been premature and inconsistent with principles of equity and transparency.

By not pre-selecting recipients, we preserve the ability for organizations across islands and communities to participate through an **open and competitive process**. Implementation through state agencies ensures that a **formal procurement process** can occur in a fair and transparent manner. This approach ensures alignment with state procurement requirements and prevents any perception of favoritism or limited access to funding opportunities.

How we invest these funds matters as much as where they go. Under current law, Act 96 Green Fee funds are appropriated to state departments, which then implement projects through established mechanisms such as grants, contracts, and requests for proposals. These processes already require transparency, community engagement, and accountability. They provide a pathway for community-based organizations to participate in implementation while ensuring that selection is based on capacity, alignment, and readiness. Through the budget process, the Legislature allocates these funds via HB1800, where projects are reviewed and approved before being assigned to departments for implementation.

Equity, in this context, is achieved not through preference but through process. The Council's evaluation framework incorporated geographic distribution, community partnerships, and attention to areas facing the greatest risk and historical underinvestment. By pairing that framework with open implementation through agencies, we ensure that communities have a fair and meaningful opportunity to be part of this work.

Building and maintaining public trust is critical to the long-term success of the Green Fee. Communities want to see where funds are going, how decisions are made, and what outcomes are being achieved. That is why agency reporting, monitoring and evaluation **along with a public-facing dashboard** are all essential components of implementation.

This is ultimately about more than funding. It is about ensuring that the process remains fair, that communities are included, and that transparency is maintained at every stage – from procurement to evaluation.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge **your support for and approval of** the full Green Fee appropriation consistent with the Council's recommendations.

Mahalo nui for your consideration.

Me ka haʻahaʻa,
Carmela Resuma, Member
Green Fee Advisory Council (GFAC)

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 WAYS AND MEANS
ON APRIL 1, 2026 AT 10:00AM IN CR 211

IN SUPPORT OF

HB 1800, HD1 RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

April 1, 2026

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill 1800, HD1. The Governor's Supplemental Budget request for FY 2027 includes funding to support the Department's existing personnel, administrative and operating costs. This budget adds $23 million in revolving funds to align with projected expenditures of NAHASDA and $19.192 million for lump sum repair and maintenance for existing infrastructure.

DHHL supports the House Draft 1 of this measure which adds the Governor's budgeted $2 million Green Fee award to DHHL for wildfire mitigation and community resilience initiatives serving Native Hawaiian homestead communities statewide. DHHL urgently needs these funds to address significant wildfire risks across its homelands. The 2023 Lahaina wildfire underscored the growing wildfire threat throughout Hawaii. Many DHHL subdivisions are located in high-risk areas and are surrounded by unmanaged fuels and dry vegetation. The Green Fee funding will support both large-scale land management strategies and homestead-based wildfire preparedness efforts.

DHHL has identified five priority mitigation projects: 6.88 miles of firebreak construction and maintenance in Waianae and Nanakuli; fire hazard and erosion mitigation at Lalamilo Preservation Lands on Hawaii Island; ground maintenance and firebreak work at Piilani Mai Ke Kai in Anahola, Kauai; ground maintenance of dry stream beds on Molokai; and maintenance of the Leialii Parkway landscape in Maui. These projects focus on fuel reduction, firebreak maintenance, erosion control, and vegetation management in high-risk DHHL homestead areas.

The Green Fee will also support two community initiatives in partnership with the Hawaii Wildfire Management Organization (HWMO). First, a DHHL-dedicated Firewise Support Specialist will assist 15-20 homestead communities through the Firewise USA© certification process by providing technical assistance, risk assessments, workshops, and mitigation planning support. Second, DHHL will fund 10-15 Homestead Community-Led Wildfire Mitigation projects through grants of $5,000-$10,000 per community for defensible space, brush clearing, vegetation removal, and evacuation route maintenance. Participating communities will form Firewise committees and contribute volunteer labor or in-kind support. These investments align with the goals of Act 96, Session Laws of Hawaii 2025, to strengthen Hawaii's resilience to climate-driven disasters.

DHHL also supports the other additions in the House Draft 1 including $6 million to expand sewer network and lines, $20 million instead of $19.192 million for lump sum repair and maintenance for existing infrastructure, $2.5 million for vacant lot infrastructure improvements in Nanakuli Homestead, $3 million for the development of the Panaewa Hub, and $100,000 for the Haiku Valley Feasibility Study.

The Hawaiian Homes Commission (HHC) approved the "Sufficient Sums" budget request, which the Department submitted to the Governor and the Legislature as detailed in our budget testimony that can be reviewed at: https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2026/testimony/Info_Testimony_WAM_01-08-26_HHL.pdf. We are grateful for the Governor's and Legislature's support of the Department. Nevertheless, we kindly ask for your endorsement of the HHC-approved "Sufficient Sums" request to ensure the Department's continued fulfillment of its responsibilities to Native Hawaiians, especially our beneficiaries.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.

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March 31, 2026

TO: The Honorable Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Jun D. Yang, Coordinator on Homelessness

SUBJECT: **HB 1800 H.D. 1 – RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET**

Hearing: April 1, 2026, Time 10:00 a.m.
Conference Room 211 & Via Videoconference, State Capitol

AGENCY'S POSITION: The Statewide Office on Homelessness and Housing Solutions (SOHHS) strongly supports this bill and provides comments regarding the office's supplemental budget requests. We thank the Legislature for its ongoing support of the office's programmatic and operational needs and respectfully request the restoration of the office's requested Capital Improvement Project (CIP) costs that were removed in the H.D. 1.

SOHHS's mission is to develop and test innovative solutions to ending homelessness across the state, including working with other state, county, and community agencies to develop transitional housing, permanent housing, and supportive services for people experiencing homelessness. Examples include the Kauhale Initiative, which has funded over 1,000 beds for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness since 2023, and the 'Ohana Zones program, which has funded a range of supportive services, emergency shelter and triage beds, and permanent supportive housing units in partnerships with the four major counties. SOHHS also administers the Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness (HICH), a coordinating

body of 27 member agencies and stakeholders committed to statewide policy and solutions to end homelessness.

Add Funding for Homeless Triage and Medical Respite Resources ($8,000,000)

SOHHS is requesting a total of $8,000,000 to support critical homeless programs for unsheltered individuals on Oʻahu that were not included in the office's appropriation for Kauhale and ʻOhana Zone projects in Act 309, Session Laws of Hawaiʻi (SLH) 2025. Funding is requested for the Homeless Outreach and Navigation for Unsheltered Persons (HONU) program and the Aʻala Medical Respite program. These programs directly impact people experiencing unsheltered homelessness on Oʻahu, where approximately 70% of the state's homeless population resides. Supplemental funding will sustain these programs through State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2027, with the opportunity to extend services as cost savings and programmatic efficiencies are realized.

The HONU program is a mobile, low-barrier triage program designed to navigate unsheltered individuals to other appropriate settings, including shelters, kauhale, permanent housing, family reunification, and relocation. As one of the limited walk-in shelters with the ability to accept pets and reconfigure beds based on family household composition needs, HONU is able to adapt to its operations as the needs of households seeking shelter. The program has recently expanded its capacity to serve approximately 60-80 individuals at any time, and serves approximately 230 individuals each quarter. Since opening as an ʻOhana Zone program in December 2019, the HONU has served over 4,700 individuals.

The Aʻala Medical Respite program includes capacity for up to 62 individuals, including individuals requiring 24-hour supervision due to medical needs. The program combines intensive medical respite beds with a surrounding kauhale village to provide residents with a place to recover from health issues and work toward independence. Medical respite beds serve individuals with higher levels of medical acuity than regular shelter or kauhale beds, with specialty services provided by on-site medical professionals. As individuals stabilize and recover, they may transition to the kauhale component of the program or be referred to other housing resources. The model is based on recommendations from the first medical respite kauhale at Pūlama Ola, a temporary program that operated outside of Washington

Place from May through December 2023. The program has served over 245 individuals since July 2024. Operating funds are necessary for this program to continue without interruption or significant impacts to the target population as the Medicaid 1115 waiver amendment for medical respite reimbursement continues to ramp up and undergo process improvements.

For more information about the Kauhale Initiative and ʻOhana Zones projects, see the Combined SOHHS, HICH, and Act 309 (SLH 2025) Report to the 2026 Legislature.

Restore Funding for SOHHS Operating Costs ($308,000)

In addition to supplemental funding for Kauhale and ʻOhana Zones programs, SOHHS is requesting to restore operating funds that were not included in the biennium budget. The appropriation of $308,000 for office operating expenses and administrative costs will allow SOHHS to continue its statewide policy and planning mandates, including facilitating HICH meetings and producing reports, continuing the development of a data clearinghouse and related reporting, and monitoring existing programs. For additional information about the HICH and the Hawaiʻi Ten-Year Strategic Plan and Framework to End Homelessness (2022-2032), please visit the Hawaiʻi Interagency Council on Homelessness website.

Add General Obligation Bond Funding for Kauhale Projects ($10,100,000)

SOHHS is requesting an additional $10,100,000 in general obligation bond funds for Capital Improvement Project (CIP) costs related to kauhale. The appropriation of general obligation bonds will support the development of additional or expanded kauhale sites, including potential locations in central and leeward Oʻahu to address unmet housing needs. Additional neighbor island kauhale projects on Hawaiʻi island and Kauaʻi have already been funded in the biennium and are in the pre-development and planning stages. For a description of current and planned kauhale projects on all four major islands, see the Act 309, Session Laws of Hawaiʻi (SLH) SFY 2026 Q2 Report on Kauhale and ʻOhana Zones Programs. The creation of additional kauhale sites is consistent with recommendation in SOHHS's Comprehensive Needs Assessment, conducted pursuant to Act 309, SLH 2025. Increasing the inventory of deeply affordable, low-barrier residential facilities where people experiencing

unsheltered homelessness can heal from trauma and transform their lives will improve future housing stability and upward mobility.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

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GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
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DIRECTOR

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DEPUTY DIRECTOR

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM
KA ʻOIHANA HOʻOMOHALA PĀʻOIHANA, ʻIMI WAIWAI A HOʻOMĀKAʻIKAʻI

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Statement of
JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Wednesday, April 1, 2026
10:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

In consideration of
HB1800, HD1
RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT) **strongly supports** HB1800, HD1, which adjusts and requests appropriations for fiscal biennium 2025-2027 funding requirements for operations and capital improvement projects of Executive Branch agencies and programs. For the committee's convenience, the department has reconciled our budget requests with HD1 and categorized them into two sections in testimony – 1) Missing from HD1, or 2) Included in HD1.

MISSING FROM HD1:
The following budget requests were not included or fully funded in HB1800, HD1. These requests are from either the Governor's Budget or Governor's Message 2. DBEDT respectfully offers these items for the committee's consideration for inclusion in SD1.

Foreign Trade Zone (BED107/BA)
- $250,000 in special funds for Tropical Agricultural Tech Center Warehouse, Hawaii, to be reimbursed by Federal earmark.

Hawaii Tourism Authority - Sports and Signature Events (BED115/SS)
- $3,000,000 in general funds for Sports Tourism
    - This request funds targeted marketing and promotions with professional and collegiate sports, international teams, and goodwill tournaments that

attract traveling fans and participants from key markets including the U.S., Japan, Korea, China, Taiwan, and Australia.
  - The investment will strengthen near-term demand at a time when reduced airlift and cruise itinerary shifts will emerge in response to softening travel demand, and when carriers and cruise lines may redeploy assets to competing destinations absent sustained demand signals.
  - Sports-related travel is a proven, event-driven segment with the interest and capacity to travel, and it can generate compelling reasons to choose Hawai‘i. HTA’s approach is guided by a sports marketing plan based on target markets, market size, and geographic focus, informed by historical performance and research, and it prioritizes opportunities that address identified gaps and are most likely to stimulate demand.

Hawaii Tourism Authority - Admin & Governance (BED113/XC)

- This $55 million request was originally submitted as $81 million: the $60 million in GO Bonds and $21 million in special funds.
  - Hawaii Convention Center Improvements, Oahu, GO Bonds for $60,000,000 is now amended to $34 million in GO Bonds .
  - Hawaii Convention Center Improvements, Oahu, special funds for $21,000,000. No amendments to this request.
  - This request will fund approximately 20 repair and upgrade projects at the Hawai‘i Convention Center that are separate from the roof repair currently underway, including approximately $22 million to repair the ballroom gutter and the foyer transom glass adjacent to the roof area.
  - Completing this work concurrently with the roof repair will improve cost efficiency and help minimize future lost business, since the facility is already operating on a modified evenings-and-weekends schedule. The project list is based on cost estimates; if final costs exceed estimates, HTA will adjust the scope by reducing the number of projects to remain within the appropriation.

Agribusiness Development Corporation (BED170/KB)

- $9,300,000 in GO bonds for the Kōke‘e Ditch Irrigation System on Kauai provides irrigation water to approximately 12,000 acres of agricultural land and failure to fund these improvements places productive farmland at immediate risk, undermines the State’s food production objectives, threatens agricultural jobs, and compromises long-term economic stability in the region. Beyond its agricultural function, the Kōke‘e system provides critical water storage capacity that captures storm surges and heavy rainfall, mitigating downstream flooding risks and protecting public safety. Deferred action increases the likelihood of

infrastructure failure during extreme weather events, exposing nearby lands, infrastructure, and communities to preventable flood hazards.

- $2,630,000 in GO Bonds for the Kekaha Irrigation System serves approximately 2,500 acres of agricultural lands in West Kaua‘i is essential to the survival of small and medium-sized farming operations that rely on consistent irrigation to sustain crops and remain economically viable. Aging infrastructure and deferred maintenance have heightened the risk of service disruptions that could immediately impact active farming operations. Without this investment, the State faces significant disruptions to agricultural production, setbacks to Hawai‘i’s food security mandates, economic losses in rural communities, and increased public safety concerns associated with unmanaged stormwater flows. In addition to supporting agriculture, the system plays an important role in regional water management and stormwater control, helping reduce flood risks during heavy rainfall events. Prompt funding is necessary to safeguard both agricultural productivity and community resilience.

INCLUDED IN HD1:

The following requests were included in HB1800, HD1. These requests are from either the Department’s requests, Governor’s Budget, GM2, or the Governor’s Bill Package. DBEDT respectfully offers these items for the committee’s consideration for inclusion in SD1, categorized below as either an Operating or CIP request.

Operating Requests for FY 2027

Business Development and Support Division (BED100/SM)

Convert Community-Based Economic Development Revolving Funds (MOF W) of $1,823,499 to Special Funds (MOF B).

Hawaii Tourism Authority – Admin & Governance (BED113/AG)

- $500,000 in general funds (GM2) for monitoring and evaluation to assess impacts of the Sustainable Tourism Project Portfolio. (Reassigned to B&F per HB1800 HD1)
    - This request provides funds for the design and development of a dashboard to track and evaluate the results and impacts of Green-Fee-funded sustainable tourism projects, which will support informed policy decisions. HTA is prepared to lead this effort for the State. The dashboard

will be readily available to the public and any government agency interested in learning more about sustainable destination management.

Hawaii Tourism Authority – Destination Stewardship & Community (BED116/DC)

- $7,620,000 in general funds (GM2) for community-led visitor education and stewardship systems at high-use sites statewide.
    - This initiative, part of the Green Fee Advisory Council's sustainable tourism project portfolio, will establish or expand community-based teams at high-use sites to provide on-site visitor and resident education on native ecosystems, cultural practices, safety, and responsible behavior, and to lead stewardship work such as habitat restoration, invasive species removal, and protection of culturally significant places.
    - Investing in community-led stewardship reduces impacts on natural and cultural resources, improves safety, strengthens cultural understanding and respect, and builds long-term local capacity through place-based, culturally grounded approaches. This proposal scales programs already working across the state, aligned with community priorities. HTA is prepared to administer the initiative on behalf of the State of Hawai‘i with community organizations, counties, and state agencies, with clear accountability, measurable outcomes, and responsible use of funds.

Hawaii State Energy Office – (BED120/SI)

- $6,000,000 in special funds for Geothermal, Carbon Sequestration, and Underground Water Resource Characterization Program. Sequence #1100-0001

  HSEO supports the House adjustment to increase the Energy Security Special Fund (ESSF) for a Geothermal, Carbon Sequestration, and Underground Water Resource Characterization Program. SB 3081 is part of Governor's admin package and provides for a similar program. This will allow for important work to be completed to better understand carbon sequestration potential and the location and temperature of underground water resources across the State.

Director's Office (BED142/AA)

- 1.00 FTE Permanent Taxation Compliance Coordinator and $116,265 in general funds

  The department supports the HD1 recommendation to fund this key position in BED142 for a department-level incentive programs position and is preferred

rather than the trade-off option as originally proposed. A centralized tax compliance and policy coordination function is essential to ensuring the consistent, transparent, and accountable administration of DBEDT-managed tax incentives. Without a dedicated compliance function, the Department faces risks of inconsistent statutory interpretation, certification delays, audit exposure, and gaps in implementing legislative changes, issues that directly affect the State's credibility, fiscal oversight, and the Legislature's confidence in the return on investment from tax incentive programs.

DBEDT administers multiple tax incentive programs authorized under HRS Chapter 201 and related statutes, representing tens of millions of dollars in annual State tax expenditures intended to stimulate economic growth, job creation, and industry development. As these programs evolve through legislative amendments and policy updates, the administrative complexity and compliance obligations have increased significantly. DBEDT's proposed legislative updates further expand program scope and reporting requirements, underscoring the need for a dedicated subject-matter expert responsible for coordinating policy interpretation, certification standards, and compliance procedures across programs.

Establishing this position within the Director's Office ensures a single point of accountability for tax incentive oversight, including program compliance, audit coordination, legislative reporting, and interagency coordination with the Department of Taxation, the Office of the Auditor, and the Legislature. Centralizing this function strengthens internal controls and ensures DBEDT's tax incentives are administered consistently and in accordance with statutory intent.

Overseeing programs representing tens of millions in annual State investment, this position helps ensure that tax incentives translate into verified economic outcomes, workforce development impacts, and measurable returns for the State, while reducing administrative risk and improving transparency and accountability in the management of public resources.

Hawaii Technology Development Corporation (BED143/TE)

- HB1800 HD1 supports the position request at BED142 Director's Office for a Taxation Compliance Coordinator handling all department incentives including Section 235-110.9 Research and Development Tax Credit oversight with new funds. Furthermore, HB1800 HD1 includes $1M in funding for each of HTDC's core programs (Hawaii Small Business Innovation & Research, Manufacturing Assistance Program, and Accelerator Small Business Training Program).

Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (BED144/PL)

- $2,000,000 in general funds (GM2) for the Natural Disaster Economic Recovery Strategy (NDERS) Update and Implementation to prepare small businesses for future disasters. This project will both refresh the NDERS—an existing strategy originally completed in 2014—and fund its implementation to help protect jobs and strengthen economic resilience.

- $400,000 in general funds (GM2) for the State Climate Adaptation & Resilience Plan to strengthen fiscal resilience, protect critical infrastructure, and prepare communities for a changing climate.

  Currently, the State of Hawaii does not have an official, comprehensive statewide Climate Adaptation and Resilience Plan. This gap leaves state-owned lands and critical infrastructure vulnerable to escalating climate hazards, increasing the State's fiscal exposure and long-term liability.

  A statewide plan is needed to identify high-risk vulnerabilities, assess fiscal and infrastructure risks, and guide proactive investments before significant losses occur. The total requested budget includes:

  - A statewide, multi-hazard climate risk and vulnerability modeling to inform capital planning and reduce long-term liabilities.
  - Web-based mapping, visualization, and monitoring tools.
  - A cost-benefit and fiscal risk assessments to quantify losses and strengthen financial planning.
  - Stakeholder engagement, planning, and publication.
  - $158,352 in general funds for 2.0 FTEs to manage and coordinate the multi-year effort.

  The need for both staff and contract support reflects the scale and technical complexity of statewide climate modeling, fiscal analysis, cross-agency coordination, and multi-hazard planning across jurisdictions—work that exceeds current staffing capacity.

  This proposal aligns with best practices adopted by other states that have formalized statewide adaptation and resilience plans to integrate climate science into land use, infrastructure, fiscal policy, and emergency preparedness. These frameworks improve coordination, reduce long-term costs, enhance federal funding competitiveness, and address growing concerns from insurers and bond rating agencies as climate-related losses escalate.

Natural Energy Lab of Hawaii Authority (BED146/EL)

- 1.00 FTE Temporary Cultural Practitioner and $90,170 special fund ceiling. This position will establish essential cultural stewardship capacity needed to support NELHA's statutory mission and ensure timely, community-aligned project development.

- $126,248 increase in special fund ceiling to restore the salary of unfunded NELHA Admin Assistant. The position provides critical baseline administrative capacity to ensure effective NELHA operations. This position is currently occupied and supports core agency functions.

Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corp (BED160/HA)

- 1.00 FTE Temporary Assistant Controller, and increase ceiling, recurring, by $176,000 of revolving funds (MOF W).

  As the State's lead agency for financing and developing affordable housing, HHFDC continues to broaden and deepen its program portfolio in response to the on-going housing crisis. HHFDC is launching new programs such as the DURF Equity Pilot Program and multifamily bond recycling program; revitalizing previously dormant programs such as the single family mortgage program and down payment assistance program; and managing significantly increased accounting activity in established programs such as the Rental Housing Revolving Fund, multifamily private activity bonds, Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program and various Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund programs. Reflecting this growth, HHFDC's net position reached approximately $2.7 billion as of June 30, 2025. Also, the number of general ledger accounts that the accounting staff maintains increased to 8,283 accounts in FY 2025 which is an increase by 3,519 accounts over the last 10 fiscal years. HHFDC's accounting section maintains, reconciles and accounts for these 8,283 accounts and continues to increase as new projects are added to the program portfolios. With the expansion in both the number and complexity of programs, current accounting staff at HHFDC are operating at full capacity. It is essential that HHFDC's accounting infrastructure evolves to meet increased operational demands, and reinforce financial management and internal controls. The Assistant Controller will play a critical role in achieving this. This position ensures that HHFDC can maintain accurate, compliant, and timely financial operations across all housing programs to support the development of affordable housing.

  Furthermore, HHFDC utilizes a Microsoft-supported accounting system for accounting, recordkeeping, and financial reporting for monetary transactions for the various HHFDC programs and function areas. The accounting software provides a vital foundation for financial integrity through robust financial and

management reporting and program tracking. Trial balances and supporting transaction recorded through and within the accounting system are audited by the external financial auditors. The audited financial statements are incorporated into the State's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. However, Microsoft and its partners will discontinue support for the current system, requiring HHFDC to procure and implement a new accounting solution. Managing the procurement, implementation, and parallel operation of both the existing and new systems will place substantial strain on current accounting staff. We anticipate that the Assistant Controller will be fully engaged in managing the entire transition to a new accounting system, including solicitation, procurement, implementation, testing, staff training, and post implementation maintenance and troubleshooting. The accounting system underpins all financial transactions supporting housing development, including loan disbursements, bond transactions, and project funding flows. A failure to transition before software support ends would place HHFDC at risk of disruption in project payments, audit findings affecting bond rating and credibility, and delays in project closings and construction draws.

Stadium Authority (BED180/SA)

- $49,500,000 Ceiling Increase to Stadium Development Special Funds (SDSF). This adjustment is necessary to enable the Stadium Authority to allot and expend funds previously appropriated under Act 248, SLH 2022, and authorized for deposit into the SDSF via Proviso 17.3. Increasing the ceiling ensures the Stadium Authority possesses the requisite fiscal flexibility to execute the New Aloha Stadium Entertainment District (NASED) project efficiently.

CIP Requests for FY 2027

Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (BED144)

- $7,000,000 in GO Bonds (GM2) in FY 2027 for Plans, Design, and Construction for Waikiki Beach Restoration Project, Oahu. The FEIS highlights the urgent need to address climate-driven erosion that threatens public safety, residents, and Hawaii's economy.

Natural Energy Lab of Hawaii Authority (BED146/EL)

- $10,000,000 in GO Bonds to remove six abandoned deep seawater pipelines totaling approximately 22,500 linear feet that present a serious risk to public health and safety and to the environment.

- $1,675,000 in GO Bonds for design and construction of Host Park Repairs and Improvements including a) security fencing, b) offshore pipeline surveys and improvements, c) Research Campus electrical repair and upgrades, and d)

priority roadway repairs. The purpose is to mitigate known safety hazards and preserve essential assets.

Hawaii Community Development Authority (BED150/KA)

- $1,000,000 in GO bonds for East Kapolei Environmental Impact Statement, Oahu. The project scope is to prepare a programmatic environmental impact statement and archaeological/historical/cultural analyses (ka paʻakai) to cover infrastructure projects, development, and master plan implementation in East Kapolei.

- $2,000,000 in GO bonds for Heeia Master Plan Update, Oahu. The project scope is to amend the Heeia Master Plan and Administrative Rules in a manner that acknowledges the changing conditions and realities and appropriately considers the community's vision for the district.

Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (BED160)

- $150,000,000 in GO Bonds for Cash Infusion for Rental Housing Revolving Fund, Statewide
- $80,000,000 in GO Bonds for Cash Infusion for Rental Housing Revolving Fund Tier II, Statewide

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TESTIMONY OF
CAROLINE ANDERSON
Interim President & CEO
Hawai‘i Tourism Authority
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Wednesday, April 1, 2026
10:00 AM
State Capitol, Room 211
In consideration of
HB 1800 HD1
RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawai‘i Tourism Authority (HTA) offers comments on HB 1800 HD1 regarding HTA programs that were part of our original budget request, but that were changed in the HD1 version of this bill.

BED113/XC: Hawai‘i Convention Center (HCC) Repairs and Maintenance Projects.
HB 1800: ~~$55 million~~; HB 1800 HD1: $1

HTA’s original request for $55 million is to fund critical repair and upgrade projects at the HCC: $34 million in C funds and $21 million in B funds from the Convention Center Enterprise Special Fund, which currently holds approximately $21 million in revenue generated by the facility.

While the rooftop repair project currently underway addresses the major roof leaks, it does not resolve all of the leaks at the HCC. The $55 million request covers the repair of the remaining leaking areas and most notably the ballroom gutter, foyer and lobby transom glass. It will also cover 19 other proposed projects and upgrades related to leaks, enhancing HCC to meet the standards required to compete with other convention centers vying for meetings and conventions business in Hawai‘i. (See table below)

By cutting this funding, the HCC will still leak when the center reopens in 2028 after its rooftop repair is complete. This will keep Hawai‘i at a distinct competitive disadvantage, and the state will lose business to competing destinations that are investing millions into their convention centers. Meetings, Conventions and Incentives visitors to Hawai‘i generated $39.7 million in 2024 in tax revenue and $28.4 million in revenue, which the State could increase by investing in its repair and modernization to make it a more desirable and reliable venue.

Because HCC is operating on a modified schedule during the rooftop repair, FY2027 is the best opportunity to complete the necessary work while avoiding future disruptions to the business. By delaying funding, the projects will need to be completed later at higher costs, resulting in additional downtime.

Proposed FY 2027 Hawai‘i Convention Center Projects

Proposed Project	Estimated Cost**
Ballroom gutter, foyer and lobby transom glass and soffit repair	$22,123,054
Slate tile repair	$1,575,000
House sound audio	$5,381,306
Parking system equipment upgrade	$1,050,000
Interior building painting	$3,768,084
Digital signage upgrade i	$3,150,000
Carpet replacement	$4,269,047
Air wall repairs, fabric replacement	$1,396,944
Roll-up door replacement	$211,411
IT network switch upgrade	$346,500
Facility equipment replacement	$760,342
ADA compliance, possibly other issues	$171,450
Kalakaua kitchen boiler replacement	$210,000
Cafe 808 renovation	$2,715,508
Frictionless concession	$1,665,508
1801 renovation	$3,870,704
Ice machines replacement	$1,048,893
Loading dock supply fan replacement	$236,250
Lobby door replacement	$525,000
Xorel wallcovering replacement	$525,000
TOTAL	**$55,000,000**

**The project list is based on cost estimates; if final costs exceed estimates, HTA will adjust the scope by reducing the number of projects to remain within the appropriation.

BED114: Branding & Marketing
HB 1800: ~~$39,249,201~~; HB 1800 HD1: $39,049,982

HB 1800 HD1 cuts $500,000 from the Japan market and $199,219 from the US market, while putting more funds into air route development ($300,000) and the China ($100,000) and Korea ($100,000) markets. While we appreciate the House's recognition of the importance of protecting and expanding air routes to Hawaii, we do not believe funds should be cut from the U.S. and Japan markets and redirected to the China and Korea markets.

HTA’s new five-year Strategic Plan 2016-2030 (pending Governor's approval) identifies three strategic pillars, one of which is brand marketing. Under this pillar, the objectives are to 1) Differentiate Hawai‘i through branding that recognizes our unique culture and local values, drives economic vitality, and respects community needs. 2) Attract well-defined, high-value visitor segments with targeted marketing strategies that deliver measurable, high returns on investment.

Cutting two of our most essential and highest-producing markets—Japan and the U.S.—undermines our ability to deliver on these mandated objectives. The new strategic plan's key tactics include placing more emphasis on the U.S. East market to stimulate visitation and initiating marketing co-ops to sustain and build air service in key international markets.

Preliminary 2025 data show Hawai‘i welcomed 7.4 million U.S. visitors and 731,922 visitors from Japan, compared to 163,510 Korean visitors and 47,309 Chinese visitors. Reducing core market funding places these mandated KPIs at risk, as Japan and U.S. travelers represent the most stable

and highest-value contributors to both state and county tax revenues through the Transient Accommodations Tax.

BED115/SS: $3,000,000 for Sports Tourism Program Expansion.
HB 1800: ~~$3 million~~ HB 1800 HD1: $1

This request funds targeted marketing and promotions with professional and collegiate sports, international teams, and goodwill tournaments that attract traveling fans and participants from key markets including the U.S., Japan, Korea, China, Taiwan, and Australia.

Political uncertainty, unfavorable exchange rates, and rising inflation are setting higher barriers to travel in 2026 and 2027. At the same time, the cruise lines and air carriers have scheduled flights and cruises to Hawai‘i. If cabins and flights are not filled this year and next, we can expect those ships and planes to be rerouted to other destinations with stronger demand. That means it's critical that Hawai‘i create compelling reasons to travel to Hawai‘i over the next two years, particularly among groups with the interest and means to do so. One segment stands out as meeting these criteria and responding well to a compelling reason to travel: sports participants and fans.

Sports-related travel is a proven, event-driven segment with the interest and capacity to travel, and it can generate compelling reasons to choose Hawai‘i. The funds will be applied to a sports marketing plan based on target markets, market size, and geographic focus, informed by historical performance and research, which prioritizes opportunities that address identified gaps and are most likely to stimulate demand.

BED116: $3,000,000 for Destination Stewardship and Community
HB 1800: ~~$7,923,883~~ HB 1800 HD1: $15,243,883

While an additional $7,620,000 supports a Green Fee program (Community-Based Visitor Education Stewardship Program), $300,000 for a digital information board was removed from the Kahea Airport Greetings Program. However, the digital information board was a one-time cost in fiscal year 2026. Removing $300,000 from the FY 2027 budget reduces the funding for musicians, entertainers, dancers, and keiki art – unique expressions of Aloha that give our airports a Hawaiian sense of place.

Mahalo for the opportunity to share our comments.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
KA 'OIHANA MĀLAMA LAWELAWE KANAKA
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March 31, 2026

TO: The Honorable Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways & Means

FROM: Ryan I. Yamane, Director

SUBJECT: **HB 1800 HD1 – RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET.**

Hearing: April 1, 2026, 10:00 a.m.
Conference Room 211 & Videoconference, State Capitol

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports the executive budget measure and provides comments regarding the impacts of the HD1 amendments.

DHS appreciates the Legislature's continued support of the Department and its workforce as we continue to provide the needed financial, nutrition, and energy assistance, health care coverage, vocational rehabilitation, protective and homeless services needed by Hawaii's residents. DHS is also actively supporting the response and recovery efforts related to the impacts of the March 2026 Kona Low storms.

The supplemental budget reflects shifts in federal policies as we begin to meet the requirements of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA), Public Law 119-21. Significant requests to support the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) include additional state funds to offset the reduction in federal fund match from 50% to 25% of SNAP administrative expenses. Additional investment in modifying the eligibility systems is also required to meet OBBBA work or "community engagement" requirements and address other changes aimed at reducing SNAP program errors. Increases to Medicaid capitation funds are included to meet an anticipated 12% increase in health care across all populations.

Impact of HD1 amendments

DHS respectfully requests the committee reconsider these requests.

Social Services Division (SSD)

- HMS 301 – Child Protective Services: The HD1 placed a $1 placeholder for this request.

		BUDGET REQUEST		FY27		
Prog ID/Org	Dept Pri	Description	MOF	FTE (P)	FTE (T)	$ Amount
301/SA		Additional funds for contract services for Child Protective Services due to rising costs of liability insurance	A			1,500,000

SSD requested an additional $1.5M to address increased insurance-related costs incurred by vendor partners, many of whom have experienced significant insurance premium increases in the current market. These rising costs place added financial pressure on providers delivering critical shelter services. Without this additional appropriation, SSD may need to adjust the scope or level of services requested from vendors, which could impact the availability or continuity of shelter services.

Med-QUEST Division

- HMS 401/302-001 Health Care Payments: The HD1 placed a $1 placeholder in response to Governor's Message 5, dated March 2, 2026.

The Governor's Message requests $16.5M in general funds to address Health Care Payments for State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2027, to cover costs from the expiration of the enhanced Affordable Care Act tax credits for individuals that qualify for Cost Share Reductions. Without this appropriation, the eligible population may not be able to afford health care premiums and consequently may become reliant on emergency department services. Currently, DHS, in consultation with the Governor's office, is considering targeting premium assistance for:

- Low-income Hawai'i residents enrolled in **Silver Marketplace Plans** who receive **Advance Premium Tax Credits (APTC)** and **Cost-Sharing Reductions (CSR);**
- Eligibility will be limited to individuals and families **at or below 250% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL)**, which in 2026 ranges from approximately **$45,900** for a household of one to **$111,200** for a household of five;
- The program is estimated to serve approximately **6,000 enrollees** in Silver CSR plans;
- The estimated cost to cover current enrollees is approximately **$15,434,400**; and

- The additional **$1,065,600** is to cover any **newly enrolled individuals** in the federal Marketplace during the plan year. New enrollments are permitted during a special enrollment period within 60 days of an individual losing existing insurance coverage (employer sponsored, Medicaid, etc.) or when an individual's household size changes through marriage, divorce, birth or adoption of a child, etc.

Note, DHS also amended its request for emergency appropriation (see SB2211 SD2 HD1 and HB2310 HD1 SD1) to include $16.5M for the current fiscal year (SFY2026) to support health care premiums for the eligible population. The same considerations described above are intended to assist eligible residents in SFY2026.

Office of Wellness & Resilience

- HMS 555/100-001 Other Current Expenses for the Office of Wellness & Resilience: The House did not concur.

		BUDGET REQUEST		FY27		
Prog ID/Org	Dept Pri	Description	MOF	FTE (P)	FTE (T)	$ Amount
555WR-71	8	Funding for Other Current Expenses for Office of Wellness and Resilience	A			297,500
555WR-73	11	Funding for Collective Bargaining Adjustments for the Office of Wellness and Resilience	A			22,080

OWR requests $297,500 in Other Current Expenses (OCE) funding to sustain current consultant services, further develop sustainable training infrastructure, and convene an annual statewide trauma-informed care summit. Without this appropriation, OWR faces critical operational consequences across two areas central to its legislative mandate.

Loss of this funding would terminate OWR's research partnership with the University of Hawai'i and dismantle the data infrastructure required to administer and track the Hawai'i Quality of Life and Well-Being Survey — effectively undoing three years of development, including the state's first public-facing wellbeing dashboard. The dashboard fulfills requirements under Act 291, Session Laws of Hawai'i (SLH), 2022, which directs OWR to create a social determinants of health dashboard, and Act 106, SLH 2023, which directs OWR to evaluate the state of mental health supports for first responder staff. Without the survey and dashboard, OWR cannot measure population wellbeing or report progress on these mandates. Training capacity would remain constrained to smaller, ad hoc sessions with limited pathway to scale. Growing demand from state, county, and community partners would go unmet, and progress toward systems-level change across agencies would stall at a time when waitlists for OWR's Trauma-Informed

Care Learning and Leadership Collaborative continue to grow. The annual summit — a key mechanism for cross-sector alignment and workforce development — would not occur, despite being a direct response to recommendations from the Act 209, SLH 2021, Task Force, which informed the legislation establishing OWR.

- HMS 555/101-001 Collective Bargaining for Office of Wellness and Resilience: The House did not concur.

OWR requests $22,080 to account for a collective bargaining increase that was not provided to DHS on behalf of OWR at the time of the original allocation. This appropriation will ensure OWR staff are compensated equitably and in alignment with other positions of comparable credentials, qualifications, and salary range, which is a basic standard of workforce fairness. Without this funding, OWR risks losing specialized staff whose expertise in trauma-informed practices, community resilience, and systems-level implementation cannot be easily replaced. Staff attrition at this stage would reduce OWR's capacity to respond to community needs, delay or discontinue promising programs already demonstrating measurable outcomes, and undermine the office's ability to deliver on its legislative mandates.

State Office on Homelessness & Housing Solutions

- HMS 777 Capital Improvement Project (CIP), Kauhale Development Projects: The House did not concur.

SOHHS requests an additional $10.1M in GO bonds to support the creation of additional and expanded Kauhale sites on Oahu to address the ongoing need for homeless housing resources. Without this additional appropriation, SOHHS will not be able to add another Kauhale location and may need to scale back an existing project that is under development.

Please see Hawaii Public Housing Authority testimony regarding HD1 impacts to its requests.

Vacancies

With the significant amendments made by the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA), Public Law 21-14, signed on July 4, 2025, DHS is focused on implementing programmatic changes to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Medicaid, with the priority to maintain access and eligibility to available public assistance. Respectfully, DHS asks the Legislature to refrain from deleting positions or associated funding and for its continued support of DHS workforce and mission.

While responding to federal law and policy changes, it is important that our staffing levels remain as we continue to recruit, redescribe available positions, and reorganize to adapt and respond to changing fiscal and operational circumstances. DHS continues to face high vacancy rates, driven by another year of retirements and a general shortage of human services workers due to wage gaps and the toll of serving residents with complex needs. We must continue to

have the resources and flexibility to innovate, train, and support career pathways and the professional development of the current and future human services workforce.

While DHS has worked to fill vacant positions, redescribe them, and reorganize, DHS has 643.5 vacant positions. These positions are funded with state general funds, federal funds, and revolving funds. Notably, 421.50 positions are split funded positions, meaning that salaries are partially funded by federal funds. If the state match of the funded positions are deleted, DHS cannot access the federal fund match, and consequently, will not be able to fill the position.

Table 1. Breakdown of vacant positions, with budgeted salary.

Description	Funding Source	FTE Count	Budgeted Salary
Full Time	General Funds	58	3,832,850.00
	Federal Funds	90	5,090,616.00
	Revolving Funds	74	4,508,132.00
Split Funded	General Funds	250.48	14,087,591.00
	Federal Funds	170.77	10,244,121.00
	Special Funds	0.25	57,108.00
	TOTAL	**643.5**	**37,820,418.00**

Potential Lapse funds

DHS provided lapsed fund amounts for previous fiscal years as requested by the Committee on Ways and Means. DHS respectfully requests that the Senate refrain from relying upon past lapsed amounts to address current budget requests and DHS' request for emergency appropriation. The department's request for emergency appropriation (EA) in the amount of $30,748,126 for the current fiscal year is addressed in SB2211 SD2 HD1 and HB2310 HD1 SD1. DHS also requests third quarter transfer authority in HB2275 HD1. The EA request is comprised of $14,248,126 used to address food insecurity during the 2025 federal government shutdown, and $16,500,000 will be used to assist certain residents in continuing to afford health care coverage provided by the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

DHS contends that the FY2025 general fund lapsed amount is not necessarily predictive of the potential lapse we may experience in FY2026, because the EA amount exceeds the FY2025 general fund lapsed amount and notably, restricted funds were used to fund the food relief program. Importantly, DHS needs the EA funds and transfer authority requested in HB2275 HD1 prior to the end of the fiscal year, preferably before Q4. We cannot rely on transfers of potential lapse funds in Q4 to meet current obligations.

Federal Funds

The DHS SFY 27 supplemental budget includes federal fund adjustments totaling $111,545,328 N funds, bringing the projected total to $3,097,045,633 N funds. Note that these amounts are projections of funds DHS may access. However, to access federal funds, programs may require general fund contributions as a match, or federal funds may be available for reimbursement to the State, meaning the general funds need to be available and spent to seek reimbursement. The majority of the federal funds are for health care premiums or are issued directly to recipients as benefits.

Hawai'i Public Housing Authority (HPHA), see HPHA testimony submitted separately.

Non-General Funds

The report on non-general funds for DHS, pursuant to section 37-47, HRS, may be accessed at:

https://humanservices.hawaii.gov/reports/legislative-reports/.

Supplemental Budget Requests

DHS appreciates the supplemental budget requests that remain in HD1.

For requests from the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority, see HPHA budget testimony submitted separately.

Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Budget Requests that remain in the HD1

HMS 503 – Kawailoa Youth and Family Wellness Center

Req Cat	Dept Pri	Prog ID	Proj No.	Project Title	MOF	FY 27
M	1	HMS 503	FY27.1	KYFWC MASTER PLAN, OAHU	C	3.500.000

503 FY 27.1 - KYFWC Master Plan, Oahu

This request is for $3.5M for SFY 27. The original budget for DAGS002 04-02-21 was to develop a process for the master plan to upgrade and renovate the Kawailoa Youth and Family Wellness Campus (KYFWC). This project also prioritized the CIP Implementation plan, provided budgetary estimates, and prepared an environmental impact statement. These improvements will add another 25 years of longevity to the campus and create a safe space for a transitional/residential/mental health program for Hawaii's high-risk youth and their families.

The KYFWC campus is 96 years old, built in 1928 by the Territorial Government of Hawaii as the Kawailoa Training School for Girls. The Master Plan will allow for upgrades to campus infrastructure, the demolition of condemned buildings, and the creation of additional program space for youth mental health programming. KYFWC is adapting to the changing needs of the

youths we serve, and this master plan and funding are needed to continue serving them effectively.

Currently, the population of youth needs a higher level of mental health treatment, as the State of Hawaii sends youths with multiple mental health diagnoses to the mainland for treatment. The community alternatives for mental health residential type programming are dwindling, and there are no real alternatives to assist the high-risk youth. Hawaii needs to begin planning for the future of caring for this high-risk population so these youths can get proper treatment and not have to be relocated to another state.

KYFWC is being designed to address social service gaps in our state systems (Department of Health, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division (CAMHD), DOE, CWS, OYS, and the Judiciary), with a focus on the 14-24-year-old age group. The programs for KYFWC will primarily be designed to assist youths in transitioning out of our state services while still providing the critical support needed for them to succeed upon leaving our program.

Operating requirements will remain, with additional resources being provided by other partner state agencies.

Description of Operating Budget Requests in the HD1

Office of Youth Services (OYS)

HMS 501 – In-Community Youth Programs

		BUDGET REQUEST		FY 27		
Prog ID/Org	Dept Pri	Description	MOF	FTE (P)	FTE (T)	Amount ($)
503YA		Tradeoff Social Worker III for Administrative Assistant II	A	(1.00)		(58,296)
503YA		Tradeoff Social Worker III for Administrative Assistant II	A	1.00		48,648

501YA-71: Add 1.00 Permanent Administrative Assistant II for the Office of Youth Services

OYS HMS 501 respectfully requests a tradeoff of a Social Worker III 2318 in HMS 503 for Administrative Assistant II 97007K in HMS 501. This 1.0 FTE permanent civil service Administrative Assistant II, SR14 position is needed to support the Program Development Office (PDO), which performs all administrative tasks related to contracts and procurement. This position will assist with the current workload, freeing up time and tasks for other staff who are now required to perform clerical work. The position will be cross-trained and cover additional

duties when the only Administrative Assistant is on leave. The tradeoff will enhance the PDO's productivity and support for at-risk youth.

In 2007, OYS had 30 positions, including 12 Program Specialists and 7 clerical staff. OYS' responsibilities and workload have increased significantly over time to monitor nearly 100 contracts for a full continuum of care from community-based prevention services, diversion programs, transitional services (including shelters and residential services) to in-facility services for youth in addition to leading the implementation of the Kawailoa Youth and Family Wellness Center (SLH 2018), Hawaii Youth Commission (SLH 2020), Pacific Islander Youth Program List development (HCR 71, SLH 2023), the Family Court collaboration to identify strategies for partnering with community partners (HCR 72, SLH 2023), Safe Spaces for Youth Program (Act 297, SLH 2025), and other initiatives to improve collaboration and partnerships for systems change.

In 2025, OYS is currently staffed with 19 positions (63% of 2007 positions), including 8 Program Specialists and 3 clerical staff. Two of these Program Specialists and 1 clerical staff are specifically assigned to our statewide OJJDP Title II federal grant program, and another Program Specialist specifically oversees the Youth Commission. As a result, all other responsibilities of the Program Development Office (PDO) for procurement and contract management are performed by one program development officer and 3 existing program specialists, with no administrative assistant supporting PDO. On average, one program specialist carries about 25 contracts and additional responsibilities for procuring services. All program specialists perform many administrative tasks to maintain communication with providers, monitor progress, and evaluate outcomes. Program specialists also conduct site visits to the neighbor island providers. The travel approval requests and completed travel expenditure are prepared by one Administrative Assistant.

The additional Administrative Assistant will improve program efficiency, as the current workload for each program specialist is overwhelming, making it difficult to meet expectations and manage contracts effectively without adding to the clerical burden. In addition, the position will share the workload of the existing Administrative Assistant, who already has a significant workload preparing and processing paperwork.

Without this position, PDO will continue to rely on a single OYS Administrative Assistant, with no temporary or alternative coverage, which impacts efficiency and procurement processes.

Benefits, Employment & Support Services Division

HMS 236 – Case Management for Self-Sufficiency

		BUDGET REQUEST		FY27		
Prog ID/Org	Dept Pri	Description	MOF	FTE (P)	FTE (T)	$ Amount
236LC-71	1	General Funds to Offset Reduced Federal Match for SNAP Administrative Expenses Effective Federal Fiscal Year 2027	A	79.32		4,098,721
236LC-71	1	General Funds to Offset Reduced Federal Match for SNAP Administrative Expenses	N	(79.32)		(4,098,721)
236LC-72	5	Furnishing and Moving Costs to Consolidate Multiple Eligibility Determination Offices at Kapolei State Building into One Office and Create a Singular Kapolei Processing Center	A			18,240
236LC-72	5	Furnishing and Moving Costs to Consolidate Multiple Eligibility Determination Offices at Kapolei State Building into One Office and Create a Singular Kapolei Processing Center	N			13,760

236LC-71: General Funds to Offset Reduced Federal Match for SNAP Administrative Expenses Effective Federal Fiscal Year 2027

This funding request for HMS 236 reflects the additional State share for SNAP Administrative Expenses to ensure uninterrupted processing of applications and delivery of SNAP benefits, which currently serve 165,659 individuals (84,869 households) monthly. The "One Big Beautiful Bill" Act of 2025 (OBBBA or H.R. 1) significantly altered SNAP administrative funding, resulting in a cost shift to states for the program's administrative costs to continue operating the SNAP program. Beginning in FFY2027, the federal government will reduce its share of SNAP administrative costs from 50 percent to 25 percent, requiring states to pay the remaining 75 percent.

This request is to adjust the cost allocation for the 439 positions affected by this cost shift to the state. The positions affected include eligibility workers, administrative assistants, other clerical support, and section administrators who provide the day-to-day direct services to the

public. This request is also to adjust the allocation cost for the office operational expenses related to maintaining daily operations

The Division's estimates were developed on the following:

- 43% is the current federal share.
- 85% of the federal share is SNAP.
- 85% of 43% equals 37% (rounded to the nearest whole number). This is the SNAP portion.
- We are losing ½ of the SNAP portion, half of 37% is 18% (dropped the remainder).
- We are losing 18% of the current federal share of 43%, the difference is 25% (43%-18%=25%).
- 25% would be the new federal share for SNAP. In SFY2027, the new federal share will apply to 3 quarters of the year, and in SFY2028, it will apply to the entire year.

Without the requested funds, the Division will not be able to maintain the necessary administrative duties to operate the SNAP program.

236LC-72: Furnishing and Moving Costs to Consolidate Multiple Eligibility Determination Offices at Kapolei State Building into One Office and Create a Singular Kapolei Processing Center

BESSD's Kapolei Processing Center currently comprises two physical locations on two different floors (the first and fourth floors) in the Kapolei State Office Building. The purpose of this request is to allow the Division to relocate fourth-floor staff to the first floor. This will improve access for clients, especially those with mobility limitations, and allow for a more streamlined experience for the public. At present, clients begin their visit by entering the first-floor lobby and may then be directed to the fourth floor for service. This causes a delay in service for those clients because they must go up the elevator and check in on the fourth-floor lobby to confirm their identity before service can be provided. With all services consolidated to one floor, there will not be a need for a secondary fourth-floor lobby or service. The Division will coordinate the relocation of 13 staff from the fourth floor to the first floor, including moving the existing modulars and furniture. Also included in this cost is removing and upgrading existing network cabling and ensuring power access for each modular unit moved.

Through this office consolidation, and in conjunction with request 903FA-72, Staff Development Office (SDO) Move, DHS will reduce its use of private-lease office space and no longer need to pay the approximately $180,000.00 annual payment for the BESSD portion of lease 33-33-0494. The Kapolei Processing Center reduced the total number of file cabinets on both floors, maximizing the use of state-owned office space, allowing the relocation of staff cubicles from the fourth floor to the first floor. This, in turn, allows us to relocate the SDO from a private, leased space to a state-owned office on the fourth floor. With the requested appropriation, we estimate completing the SDO move by the first quarter of 2027. The request breaks down as follows:

a. Total funding request: $32,000
b. $13,800 for breakdown and re-installation of modulars from 4th floor to 1st floor for 13 staff.

i. Total move for 22 employees = $18,000. $18,000/22 staff = $818 per staff. $818x13 (SDO staff) = $10,634.
ii. Add $3,166 for other equipment and furniture disposal.
iii. $13,800x57%=$7,866 (A) $13,800x43%=$5,934 (N)

c. 5 modulars are to be built/installed in room 106 and 8 in room 117.
d. $18,200 for removing, relocating, and installing Cat 6 cabling for 13 modulars and wiring for power for each. $30K is an estimate based on $45K cost that was applied to more staff at Koolau PC, 1st floor, for re-cabling.
    i. 13 staff install Cat 6 cables for 13 staff
    ii. Complete telecom requests to transfer phones and other telecommunication lines
    iii. Estimate based on actual cost for Child Care Subsidy Office of $36,400 to install cabling for 2 offices. This budget request is based on an estimated $36,400 for 2 office spaces ($18,200 per office space) for cable installation, multiplied by 1 office space in Kapolei, for a **total of $18,200**.
    iv. $18,200x57%=$10,374 (A) $18,200x43%=$7,826 (N)
e. No adding phone lines.
f. No disposal costs and no added furniture.

HMS 903 – General Support for Self-Sufficiency Services

		BUDGET REQUEST		FY27		
Prog ID/Org	Dept Pri	Description	MOF	FTE (P)	FTE (T)	$ Amount
903FA-71	1	General Funds to Offset Reduced Federal Match for SNAP Administrative Expenses Effective Federal Fiscal Year 2027	A	16.95		9,325,071
903FA-71	1	General Funds to Offset Reduced Federal Match for SNAP Administrative Expenses	N	(16.95)		(9,325,071)
903FA-72	4	Furnishing and Moving Costs of the Benefit, Employment, and Self-Sufficiency Division's Staff Development Office from Private Lease Space to the Kapolei State Office Building	A			74,830

		BUDGET REQUEST		FY27		
Prog ID/Org	Dept Pri	Description	MOF	FTE (P)	FTE (T)	$ Amount
903FA-72	4	Furnishing and Moving Costs of the Benefit, Employment, and Self-Sufficiency Division's Staff Development Office from Private Lease Space to the Kapolei State Office Building	A			(90,270)
903FA-72	4	Furnishing and Moving Costs of the Benefit, Employment, and Self-Sufficiency Division's Staff Development Office from Private Lease Space to the Kapolei State Office Building	N			56,451

903FA-71: General Funds to Offset Reduced Federal Match for SNAP Administrative Expenses Effective Federal Fiscal Year 2027.

This is another request addressing OBBBA amendments to SNAP administrative funding, the program ID is HMS 903. As described elsewhere, beginning in FFY2027, the federal government will reduce its share of SNAP administrative costs from 50 percent to 25 percent, requiring states to pay the remaining 75 percent.

The result of this change is to magnify the financial burden to states for the continued operation of the SNAP program. This funding request reflects the additional amount the state will be responsible for to ensure uninterrupted service delivery of the SNAP program, which currently serves 165,659 individuals (84,869 households) statewide.

This request is to adjust the cost allocation for the 80 positions affected by this cost shift to the state. The positions affected include program specialists and program administrators; administrative assistants and other clerical support; investigators and investigation support staff; division support staff; and division administration, which provides day-to-day administrative services to ensure compliance and policy direction. This request also seeks to adjust the cost allocation for operational expenses related to maintaining the program's ongoing needs and the staff resources needed to perform their work.

Estimates were developed by the Division based on the following:

- 43% is the current federal share
- 85% of the federal share is SNAP
- 85% of 43% equals 37% (rounded to the nearest whole number). This is the SNAP portion
- We are losing ½ of the SNAP portion, half of 37% is 18% (dropped the remainder)
- We are losing 18% of the current federal share of 43%, the difference is 25% (43%-18%=25%).

- 25% would be the new federal share for SNAP. In SFY2027, the new federal share would apply to 3 quarters of the year, and in SFY2028, it would apply to the entire year.

903FA - 72: Furnishing and moving costs of the Benefit, Employment, and Self-Sufficiency Division's Staff Development Office from private lease space to the Kapolei State Office Building.

The BESSD Staff Development Office (SDO) is the training office for employees that provides the required and necessary training to Division staff so that they can deliver services to the public such as processing and disposing of applications for public assistance (e.g., SNAP and cash assistance), processing and disposing of applications for child care subsidies, delivering employment and training services, and licensing child care operations. The SDO currently occupies and operates from privately leased office space at an estimated annual cost of $500,000 and must be funded with 100% state funding because the property owners cannot accept any funding from or be leveraged by a federal source.

This is the estimated cost to move 9 training staff to Kapolei; purchase of new modulars to accommodate space and training staff needs; dispose of old modulars; remove, relocate, and install Cat 6 cables for 9 staff; remove cabling for 25 training computers; complete telecom requests to transfer phones and other telecommunication lines; and dispose of old office equipment in 4 training rooms, office spaces for 9 employees, and a file room.

This request is to move the Division's SDO into state-owned office space, where federal funding could also be claimed by the State. This would result in greater cost efficiencies for the state and align with the state's desire for agencies to reduce their use of privately leased office space. This request, along with request 236LC-72 Consolidation of Kapolei Processing Center, would allow the Division to achieve this goal.

Based on the BESSD lease information as of July 21, 2020, BESSD paid $148,322 annually to cover the cost of occupying 420 Waiakamilo Road, Suite 416. Based on Amendment #5 to lease agreement No. 32-33-0494, the monthly base rent is $19,157.40 + $903 (4.712% tax) = $20,060 per month, of which BESSD pays 75%, or $15,045 monthly and $180,540 annually. BESSD will continue to pay the monthly rent until this move is completed. Annual cost savings of $180,540 should start to be realized around the 2nd quarter of SFY 2027. BESSD intends to complete this move by the end of the 1st quarter of SFY 2027. The breakdown of the request is:

a. $94,719 for modular furniture:

Table 6. Breakdown of Appropriation Request for Modular Furniture for HMS 903

Cost estimate for 9 modulars based on most recent modular purchase for BESSD Child Care Subsidy Program – vendor response to request for quote for modular furniture or 25 staff	$244,775 highest quote provided from vendors. $244,775/25 = $9,791 per staff. $9,791x9 SDO staff = $88,119	$88,119 x 57% = $50,228 (A) $88,119 x 43% = $37,891 (N)
Additional cost for sit/stand desks in 4 training rooms (2 desks in each) trainers do virtual training with at least 2 trainers conducting training and taking notes	$825.00 estimated cost per sit/stand desk x 8 = $6,600	$6600x57% = $3,762 (A) $6600x43% = $2,838 (N)
Total request for modular furniture		$53,990 (A) $40,729 (N) **Total: $94,719**

b. $10,362 moving and disposal cost based on Form A request for Wahiawa PC and FTW move.
   i. Total move for 22 employees = $18,000. $18,000/22 staff = $818 per staff. $818x9 (SDO staff) = $7362,
   ii. Add $3,000 for other equipment and furniture disposal and move for 4 training rooms, a storage room, and a file room, and
   iii. $10,362x57%=$5,906 (A) $10,362x43%=$4,456 (N).

c. $26,200 for Removal and Installation of data lines
   i. 9 staff remove, relocate, and install Cat 6 cables for 9 staff and 4 training rooms
   ii. Remove cabling in the current SDO training rooms for 25 training computers
   iii. Complete telecom requests to transfer phones and other telecommunication lines
   iv. Estimate based on actual cost for Child Care Subsidy Office removal of cabling for 2 office spaces, $4000, and $36,400 install cabling for 2 offices. The budget request is based on an estimated $2,000 per office for cable removal across 4 office spaces (SDO) and 1 office space (Kapolei), for a total of $8,000. The budget request is based on an estimated $36,400 for 2 office spaces, $18,200 per office space, for cable installation, multiplied by 1 office space in Kapolei, total of $18,200
   v. $26,200x57%=$14,934 (A) $26,200x43%=$11,266 (N)

With these funds, DHS will reduce its reliance on leased private space and maximize the use of available State-owned facilities and office space.

Med-QUEST Division (MQD)

HMS 401 – Health Care Payments

		BUDGET REQUEST		FY27		

Prog ID/Org	Dept Pri	Description	MOF	FTE (P)	FTE (T)	$ Amount
401PE-71	3	Additional Funds for Projected Increases in Capitation Expenditures	A			45,000,000
401PE-71	3	Additional Funds for Projected Increases in Capitation Expenditures	N			63,375,276

401PE-71: Additional Funds for Projected Increases in Capitation Expenditures

Additional general funds are needed to address a projected shortfall in HMS 401. Capitation expenditures are projected to increase because 2026 capitation rates are projected to increase by nearly 12% across all populations, as calculated by the actuaries. This will lead to a shortfall in general funds for FY 2027 and beyond. In addition, OBBBA makes drastic changes to the Medicaid program, which will likely lead to increased expenditures as the acuity of members remaining in the program is expected to rise. An increase in the federal ceiling will also be required to draw down the federal match to the general funds. No federal cuts are expected at this time.

HMS 902 – General Support for Health Care Payments:

		BUDGET REQUEST		FY27		
Prog ID/Org	Dept Pri	Description	MOF	FTE (P)	FTE (T)	$ Amount
902IA-71	2	Add Funds for Various System Upgrades and Staff Augmentation to Implement the Provisions of Congressional OBBBA, which was signed in July 2025	A			30,000,000
902IA-71	2	Add Funds for Various System Upgrades and Staff Augmentation to Implement the Provisions of Congressional OBBBA, which was signed in July 2025	N			30,000,000

902IA-71: Add Funds for Various System Upgrades and Staff Augmentation to Implement the Provisions of Congressional OBBBA, which was signed into law July 4, 2025.

This placeholder request is for additional funding needed to implement the various provisions of OBBBA, which made comprehensive changes to the Medicaid program. Additional support will be needed for various system upgrades, enhancements, and system builds/contracts to comply with the significant changes resulting from OBBBA, including complex eligibility

changes, implementation of work requirements, and community engagement. Also needed is additional funding for contracted assistance to help MQD navigate the planning and implementation of OBBBA's many provisions. A detailed assessment of staffing, contracting, and system support is still underway. Specific details will be provided once the analysis is complete.

Statewide Office on Homelessness & Housing Solution (SOHHS)

HMS 777 – Office on Homelessness & Housing Solutions

		BUDGET REQUEST		FY27		
Prog ID/Org	Dept Pri	Description	MOF	FTE (P)	FTE (T)	$ Amount
777HH-51	7	Add Funding for Homeless Triage and Medical Respite Resources to Support Successful Placements from the Streets to Homeless Programs	A			8,000,000
777HH-72	10	Add Funding for SOHHS Operating Costs to Support Administrative Functions	A			308,960

777HH-51: Add Funding for Homeless Triage and Medical Respite Resources to Support Successful Placements from the Streets to Homeless Programs
SOHHS is requesting an appropriation to support homeless triage and medical respite programs that directly impact unsheltered homelessness.

SOHHS is responsible for implementing innovative solutions to end homelessness statewide. While Kauhale and Ohana Zones projects have successfully added over 1,000 shelter and housing beds since original implementation, there remains an ongoing need for resources to quickly transition unsheltered individuals to safer alternatives when existing shelters, Kauhale, and Ohana Zones projects are at capacity. The 2024 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count identified approximately 4,024 individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness statewide, and approximately 52% of these individuals surveyed were chronically homeless, meaning that they have one or more disabilities and have been experiencing homelessness for one year or longer. The funding request addresses the funding to continue the existing Homeless Outreach and Navigation for the Unsheltered (HONU) program and A'ala Medical Respite programs operated by the City & County of Honolulu and subcontracted partners. The HONU and A'ala Medical Respite programs are currently funded using FY25 funds to extend services through June 30, 2026. These services require additional appropriation to continue operations.

The HONU program provides between 60-80 short-term triage beds for unsheltered individuals seeking placement at shelters or other appropriate placements. This mobile program can

relocate to various locations on O'ahu to support region-specific interventions for 90-120 days. The city contributes City-owned parks and infrastructure to support the HONU.
The A'ala Medical Respite program provides 62 total Kauhale and respite beds for homeless adults with health needs, including individuals referred from hospital emergency rooms, street medicine teams, and outreach providers. This program offers enhanced medical support services beyond the scope of regular shelters or Kauhale. The City contributes the use of the City-owned property at 355 N. King Street (the former First Hawaiian Bank building) for the operation of the A'ala Medical Respite program.

Continuing these programs through SFY27 will allow SOHHS and the City & County of Honolulu to continue to make positive progress toward ending unsheltered homelessness while providing safe, dignified places for individuals to reside and being navigated to other housing resources.

SOHHS is committed to bringing additional Kauhale projects online during the fiscal biennium 2025-2027, thereby alleviating pressure on longer-term beds. Furthermore, SOHHS is working in partnership with MQD to plan for the anticipated eligibility of medical respite services under the State's Medicaid 1115 Waiver. The goal is to be able to make claims to or seek reimbursement from Medicaid for medical respite costs, thereby reducing future State appropriation requests for this type of program. If the A'ala Medical Respite program requires fewer operating funds due to upcoming Medicaid claims or reimbursements, SOHHS will work to increase the capacity for medical respite services at other locations.

In 2023, the Legislature appropriated a total of $63 million for the Kauhale Initiative ($48 million) and the Ohana Zones pilot program ($15 million) during the fiscal biennium 2023-2025. Act 309, SLH 2025, added funding for the Kauhale and Ohana Zones programs and established new requirements for their ongoing implementation. Some of these requirements include quarterly reporting to the Legislature, a statewide needs assessment and plan, and the solicitation of bids for any construction and development work exceeding $1 million.
SOHHS currently contracts with service providers to operate the Kauhale and Ohana Zone projects, leveraging the expertise necessary to run these programs. Contracts are managed within SOHHS by the Fiscal and Contracting Specialist. The City & County of Honolulu administers the contracts for the HONU and A'ala Medical Respite programs. City staff and special duty Honolulu Police Department officers directly operate the HONU program, while the City subcontracts a qualified medical provider to operate the A'ala Respite program. SOHHS has received interest from providers interested in expanding medical respite services if future funding is available.

Key program activities are directly related to reducing the number of homeless people in the statewide PIT count, increasing the number of beds for people experiencing homelessness, and increasing the percentage of people exiting homelessness to permanent housing. The HONU program adds approximately 40 shelter beds to Oʻahu's Housing Inventory Count, which may serve up to 400 individuals over 90-120 days due to the program's short-term nature. This equates to approximately 1,600 individuals per year, roughly half of whom are transitioned

from the streets while still in the program. The A‘ala Medical Respite program adds 62 shelter beds to O‘ahu's Housing Inventory Count. The program has served over 120 individuals in the past year, including individuals who would otherwise be unable to safely reside in other shelters or Kauhale due to their medical needs.

SOHHS determined that these projects provide critical beds for people experiencing homelessness. Discontinuing funding for existing projects would have a negative impact on homelessness, as individuals would like be displaced to the streets. Funding beyond SFY2026 is required because these projects provide safe, dignified places for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness to move off the streets and receive services. The loss of these projects would have a negative impact on unsheltered homelessness, as there would be fewer places for individuals to receive shelter and services, and existing participants would potentially be displaced to the streets.

Reducing and ending homelessness is a key priority of the State, and requires coordination among state agencies, federal agencies, counties, and the private sector. SOHHS is tasked with testing innovative solutions to ending homelessness, such as the HONU mobile shelter and the A'ala Medical Respite program. This request addresses this priority by funding critical projects that directly address unsheltered homelessness and create pathways off the streets.

777HH-72: Add Funding for SOHHS Operating Costs to Support Administrative Functions

The Fiscal Biennium 2025-2027 Budget did not include operating funds for SOHHS's ongoing administrative expenses. SOHHS requires a modest operating budget to carry out its functions mandated in statute, including developing and testing innovative housing solutions, administering the Kauhale and 'Ohana Zones programs, providing administrative support and management of the Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness (HICH), managing State-owned homeless facilities under the Kauhale program, and responding to inquiries and requests from legislators, community groups, and constituents. This appropriation to restore SOHHS's previous operating budget will allow SOHHS to perform essential duties without reducing the amount of funding required to continue direct services and operations of the Kauhale and Ohana Zones projects.

In 2023, the Legislature appropriated a total of $1,920,000 for SOHHS positions and operating costs for the Fiscal Biennium 2023-2025. This amount included $611,040 for personnel costs in each fiscal year and $388,960 (FY24) and $308,960 (FY25) for other operating costs, respectively.

SOHHS's projected operating expenses include phone ($4,800); travel ($20,000); transportation ($5,000); supplies ($2,000); consultation and professional services ($160,000); training ($5,000); and miscellaneous current expenses ($112,160). These projections are based on the previous year's expenditures and projected adjustments based on SOHHS's anticipated activities. For example, SOHHS anticipates spending more on intrastate travel to support new Kauhale projects on the neighbor islands, which will require site visits and inspections. Miscellaneous

current expenses will include unforeseen operating costs at State-owned Kauhale properties, administrative expenses related to the HICH, additional administrative costs related to potential federal homeless funding cuts or policy changes, and other administrative costs necessary to meet SOHHS's statutory obligations.

Act 309, SLH 2025, added funding for the Kauhale and Ohana Zones programs and established new requirements for their ongoing implementation. Some of these requirements include quarterly reporting to the Legislature, a statewide needs assessment and plan, and the solicitation of bids for any construction and development work exceeding $1M. This will increase the administrative staffing requirements necessary to implement these new requirements.

Key program activities related to SOHHS administrative functions include the number of inter-organizational/agency meetings held, the number of training sessions conducted for service providers/partners, the number of speaking engagements by staff, and the number of policy briefs/reports authored/distributed. This appropriation will directly impact SOHHS's ability to conduct these program activities, including hosting HICH meetings and other provider webinars, traveling to meetings and site visits, performing remote and on-site monitoring, and conducting project evaluations.

SOHHS's mandatory functions require operating funds to be successfully executed; SOHHS does not have other operational funding available to consider tradeoffs.

Reducing and ending homelessness is a key area of focus for the state, requiring coordination among state agencies, federal and county governments, and the private sector. This request addresses the funding needed to efficiently operate the SOHHS, which collaborates with state agencies and the HICH advisory board and develops policies to expand housing and supportive services for people experiencing homelessness statewide.

General Administration for DHS

HMS 904 – General Administration for DHS

		BUDGET REQUEST		FY27		
Prog ID/Org	Dept Pri	Description	MOF	FTE (P)	FTE (T)	$ Amount
904AA-71	1	General Funds to Offset Reduced Federal Match for SNAP Administrative Expenses	A	5.26		
904AA-71	1	General Funds to Offset Reduced Federal Match for SNAP Administrative Expenses	N	(5.26)		

904AA-71: General Funds to Offset Reduced Federal Match for SNAP Administrative Expenses Effective Federal Fiscal Year 2027

This request is required for the federal reduction of the federal share and the increase in the State's requirement for SNAP Administrative expenses, as amended by OBBBA; this request is for HMS 904.

The result of this change is to magnify the financial burden to states for the continued operation of the SNAP program. This funding request reflects the additional amount the state will be responsible for to ensure uninterrupted service delivery of the SNAP program, which currently serves 165,659 individuals (84,869 households) statewide.

This request is to adjust the cost allocation for the 82 positions affected by this cost shift to the state. The positions affected include accountants and payment staff, budget staff, administrative assistants, other clerical support staff, research staff, human resources staff, administrative appeals staff, IT staff, and department administration that provide ongoing administrative services to ensure the program complies with federal and state practices and overarching state priorities. This request also seeks to adjust the cost allocation for operational expenses related to maintaining the ongoing needs of the program and BESSD.

Estimates were developed by the Division based on the following:

- Per DHS Fiscal Management Office (FMO), 34% of the federal share is SNAP.
- We are losing ½ of the SNAP portion, half of 34% is 17%.
- Added 17% to the state portion of each position and decreased the 17% of the federal portion of each position and recalculated the cost allocation for each position.
- 17% would be the new federal share for SNAP. In SFY2027, the new federal share would apply to 3 quarters of the year, and in SFY2028, it would apply to the entire year.

This request is in response to decreased federal funding for administrative expenses to maintain current SNAP operations and service delivery.

DHS Overall

Federal Fund Adjustment Requests

		BUDGET REQUEST		FY27		
Prog ID/Org	Dept Pri	Description	MOF	FTE (P)	FTE (T)	$ Amount
902IA-FF	16	Federal Fund Ceiling	N			27,655,000
401PE-FF	17	Federal Fund Ceiling	N			10,931,701
302DA-FF	18	Federal Fund Ceiling	N			2,162,230
220RH-FF	19	Federal Fund Ceiling	N			11,800
222RA-FF	20	Federal Fund Ceiling	N			2,257,511
501YA-FF	21	Federal Fund Ceiling	N			565,865

Form FF Reconciliation

An additional federal fund ceiling is requested based on a comparison of federal fund appropriations under Act 250, SLH 2025, and anticipated federal fund requirements for FY27.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of these supplemental budget requests.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

SIERRA WHITESIDE
CHAIRPERSON

DAINTRY BARTOLDUS
EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATOR

STATE OF HAWAIʻI
KA MOKUʻĀINA O HAWAIʻI
STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
'A'UNIKE MOKU'ĀPUNI NO KA NĀ KĀWAI KULA
PRINCESS VICTORIA KAMĀMALU BUILDING
1010 RICHARDS STREET, Room 122
HONOLULU, HAWAIʻI 96813
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543

April 1, 2026

The Honorable Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
The Thirty-Third Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawaiʻi
Honolulu, Hawaiʻi 96813

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Committee Members:

SUBJECT: HB1800 HD1 Relating to the State Budget

The Hawaiʻi State Council on Developmental Disabilities is in **STRONG SUPPORT** of HB1800 HD1, which adjusts and requests appropriations for fiscal biennium 2025–2027 funding requirements for operations and capital improvement projects of Executive Branch agencies and programs.

The Council strongly supports the inclusion of funding for **HTH905 – Developmental Disabilities Council, page 33, line 1, item 25**. This funding is critical to sustaining the Council's federally mandated role in systems change, policy development, and advocacy to improve the lives of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) in Hawaiʻi.

The Developmental Disabilities Council plays a unique and essential role in Hawaiʻi's disability ecosystem. Through its work, the Council advances policies that promote community inclusion, strengthen access to services and supports, and improve coordination across state systems, including Medicaid, housing, employment, and long-term services and supports. Continued investment ensures the Council can effectively engage stakeholders, conduct research, and implement initiatives that lead to meaningful, systems-level improvements.

This funding also supports the Council's ability to bring together individuals with disabilities, family members, providers, and state partners to identify gaps and develop solutions that are responsive to the needs of Hawaiʻi's communities. Without this investment, the State risks losing critical capacity to drive innovation, accountability, and cross-sector collaboration in disability policy.

For these reasons, the Hawaiʻi State Council on Developmental Disabilities supports HB1800 HD1, and respectfully urges the Legislature to maintain full funding for **HTH905 – Developmental Disabilities Council**.
Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.
Sincerely,

Daintry Bartoldus, Executive Administrator

Green Fee
Advisory Council

To: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means (WAM)

From: Jeff Mikulina, Chair
Green Fee Advisory Council (GFAC)

HB1800 – Relating to Green Fee Appropriations – In Strong Support
Wednesday, 04-01-26 / 10:00 AM / Conference Room 211

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Ways & Means Committee,

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify **in support** of appropriating Green Fee revenues consistent with the Green Fee Advisory Council's Year 1 recommendations.

With Act 96 already in place, the focus before the Legislature is no longer whether to establish the Green Fee but how to implement it in a way that reflects fiscal discipline, transparency, and long-term accountability. From the outset, the Council approached this responsibility by designing a process centered on systems, not recipients. Our charge was not to select organizations but to evaluate projects based on clearly defined criteria and statewide need.

As reflected in prior testimony, the Council reviewed more than 500 public ideas and over 100 formal proposals representing more than $2 billion in funding requests for approximately $100 million in available resources. These submissions included both community-driven proposals and projects aligned with departmental priorities, ensuring that the final recommendations reflect both public input and implementation feasibility. Each proposal was evaluated using a standardized framework grounded in results, readiness, relevance, relationships, and region, with conflict-of-interest safeguards applied throughout.

It is important to be clear on one point that is especially relevant for this Committee: the Council intentionally did not name or pre-select implementing organizations. This was not an omission; it was a deliberate decision to preserve fairness, avoid limiting competition, and maintain alignment with the State's established procurement and grant-making systems. Pre-selecting recipients at this stage would have created inequities and undermined the integrity of the process.

Instead, the Council's recommendations are structured to flow through existing agency mechanisms and standard departmental procurement processes that are already governed by statute and oversight. Specifically, Green Fee funds are appropriated by the Legislature through the state budget bill (HB 1800), where projects are reviewed through budget worksheets and

line-item justifications by this Committee before being allocated to departments. Departments then determine implementation through established procurement, grant, and contracting processes. These systems already incorporate public notice, competitive selection, reporting requirements, and community engagement, and they ensure that funds are deployed transparently and accountably.

From a fiscal perspective, this approach also reinforces implementation readiness. Projects were prioritized not only for impact, but also for their ability to responsibly deploy funds within the fiscal timeline and leverage existing agency capacity. The resulting portfolio reflects a prevention-focused strategy that reduces long-term costs to the State by investing in mitigation, resilience, and stewardship today.

Accountability remains central to this framework. Implementation through state agencies ensures that expenditures are subject to existing budget controls and reporting requirements, while the inclusion of monitoring and evaluation funding, along with a public-facing dashboard, provides additional transparency for both the Legislature and the public. This includes legislative oversight through the budget process, agency-level execution and reporting, and additional transparency through monitoring, evaluation, and a public-facing dashboard.

In closing, the Council's role was to develop a transparent, criteria-based framework that avoids earmarking and preserves the integrity of the State's processes. The Legislature's role through the budget process is to determine final appropriations and ensure funds are deployed through those existing, accountable systems.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge **your approval** of the full Green Fee appropriation consistent with the Council's recommendations.

Mahalo for your leadership and consideration.

With aloha,
Jeff Mikulina, Chair
Green Fee Advisory Council (GFAC)

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIAʻĀINA

LATE

STEPHEN F. LOGAN
MAJOR GENERAL
ADJUTANT GENERAL
KA ʻAKUKANA KENELALA

PHILLIP L. MALLORY III
BRIGADIER GENERAL
DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL
KA HOPE ʻAKUKANA KENELALA

STATE OF HAWAIʻI
KA MOKUʻĀINA O HAWAIʻI
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
KA ʻOIHANA PILI KAUA
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
3949 DIAMOND HEAD ROAD
HONOLULU, HAWAIʻI 96816-4495

March 31, 2026

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 1800
RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

BY
MAJOR GENERAL STEPHEN F. LOGAN
ADJUTANT GENERAL
AND DIRECTOR OF HAWAIʻI EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Todd, Vice-Chair Moriwaki, and members of the committee:

I am Major General Stephen F Logan, Adjutant General and Director of Hawaiʻi Emergency Management Agency, State of Hawaiʻi, Department of Defense.

The Department of Defense (DEF) provides written testimony in **SUPPORT** of HB1800.

The Department of Defense requests four additional positions that are 100% federally funded.

In addition, The Department of Defense (DEF) appreciates the inclusion of $33,338,000 in general obligation bond funds (C) and $32,430,000 in matching federal funds (P) in FY27 for the department's capital improvement program (CIP). These appropriations support the following programs:

• DEF112 – Services to Veterans: $2,220,000 (C); $8,580,000 (P)

• DEF114 – Hawaiʻi National Guard Youth Challenge Academy: $11,000,000 (C)

• DEF116 – Hawaiʻi Army and Air National Guard: $7,400,000 (C); $16,600,000 (P)

• DEF118 – Hawaiʻi Emergency Management Agency: $12,718,000 (C); $7,250,000 (P)

In summary, the HB1800 HD1 budget restores and strengthens several department's priority CIP items, sustained State and federal support for statewide siren modernization, and increased appropriations for hurricane protective retrofits needed to keep ongoing resilience projects on plan. The bill also reinstates State and federal funds for critical veterans cemetery projects—such as East Hawaiʻi Veterans Cemetery #2 expansion, statewide cemetery restorations, and Hawaiʻi State Veterans Cemetery improvements—ensuring federal grant eligibility and maintaining VA compliance requirements. Funding for statewide Hawaiʻi Army National Guard facility upgrades is preserved, supporting essential infrastructure, safety, and readiness needs across multiple installations.

Additionally, the department appreciates the inclusion of $818,000 in general obligation bonds (C) for the Green Fee initiatives, which includes the hurricane refuge assessments, Hanalei flood notification capabilities, and shelter hardening at Laupāhoehoe. These projects further strengthen statewide public safety and emergency preparedness.

Thank you for the opportunity to support HB1800.

If you have any questions or need additional information to our response, please contact our Administrative Services Officer COL (retired) Rusty Spray at (808) 369-3458 or at rusty.spray@hawaii.gov.

Council Chair
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura

Councilmembers
Kauanoe Batangan
Tom Cook
Gabe Johnson
Tamara Paltin
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez
Shane M. Sinenci
Nohelani U'u-Hodgins

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Director of Council Services
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

Deputy Director of Council Services
Richelle K. Kawasaki, Esq.

March 25, 2026

TO: Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair, and
Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Nohelani U'u-Hodgins
Councilmember

DATE: Monday, March 30, 2026
10:00 a.m., Conference Room 211

SUBJECT: **TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1800, HD1, RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to adjust and request appropriations for fiscal biennium 2025-2027 funding requirements for operations and capital improvement projects of Executive Branch agencies and programs.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

I would like to highlight the critical importance of including $142 million in the State Budget for the development of King Kamehameha III Elementary School in Lahaina.

As a Maui resident, I cannot overstate how urgent it is to restore a piko of learning for our keiki in Lahaina. King Kamehameha III Elementary School holds deep historical and cultural significance in Lahaina, honoring the legacy of King Kamehameha III and the area's rich history. Its restoration represents far more than rebuilding a school – it represents rebuilding the heart of the community.

Time is of the essence. State investment is the foundation for advancing this project. It demonstrates the State's commitment, accelerates planning, and unlocks complementary funding from federal and philanthropic partners who look to the State

for leadership. Without this allocation, momentum stalls and the path home for our keiki becomes even longer.

Schools are not just places of learning - they are stabilizing anchors for families, hubs of community resilience, and safe, nurturing environments where keiki can learn, heal, and imagine their futures. In the wake of the immense loss in Lahaina, the return of King Kamehameha III Elementary School represents the return of hope.

Securing the full $142 million allocation is essential to ensuring that this project can move forward without delay and welcome keiki home to Lahaina once again.

I respectfully urge you to support this funding and help bring this new school back to the community.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony and for your continued commitment to Hawai'i's keiki and their future.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
KA ʻOIHANA MĀLAMA PĀKA A ME NĀ HANA HOʻONANEA
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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RICK BLANGIARDI
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KĒHAULANI R. PUʻU
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
HOPE PO'O

March 27, 2026

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
The Honorable Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee:

Subject: HB 1800, HD1– Relating to the State Budget

The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), City and County of Honolulu (City) SUPPORTS the allocation of $6,750,000 of State Green Fee funds to conduct sand restoration at Ala Moana Regional Park (AMRP). The sand replenishment will take place on the area below the high-water mark, which is under the State's jurisdiction. This project is for sand restoration only; no hardscape will be built.

This beach fronts the most popular local beach park in the State – an area commonly known as "The People's Park." AMRP hosts a tremendous number of festivals and events enjoyed by visitors and residents alike, from the annual Lantern Floating Ceremony, to multiple swim and surf events, and millions of informal visits each year. Maintaining and restoring beach sand is critical to preserving AMRP's recreational, cultural, environmental, and safety values for the people of Honolulu.

The beach at AMRP has been subject to coastal erosion over time due to natural wave action and the lack of a natural sand supply. The beach has eroded to the point where visitors and residents are largely walking and sitting on coral rubble, beach showers are in danger of being compromised, beach-side sand volleyball is only available during a limited season, and space for relaxing on the beach is extremely limited. As the State holds title to the beach areas below and at the high-water mark, the City cannot utilize bond funds to "construct" the sand replenishment, as that is where the sand will be placed.

Sand replenishment and beach nourishment will help to protect the area from further erosion and can reduce the threat of flooding. It will also provide protection for beach and inland infrastructure, and an improved buffer-zone for areas further inland during large storm events. The replenishment will widen the beach and provide a safer sandy area that enhances public enjoyment, supports swimming and other water activities, and reduces hazards such as exposed rocks that can injure barefoot beachgoers.

The City stands ready to work with the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to assist with or take lead on the project, as the state desires. The City completed design and permitting for the beach nourishment and sand restoration project several years ago, as part of a larger project to refresh and revitalize the inland City park lands. All the beach nourishment permits remain active, save two, which expired and will be renewed.

The beach nourishment project is poised to start construction in early 2027, if funding is acquired in July 2026. Active permits completed for this project include:

- Department of Land and Natural Resources, Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands - Conservation District Use Permit #OA-3858, valid up to February 11, 2030;
- Department of Health, Clean Water Branch - National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit #R10F988.FNL.24, valid up to January 29, 2029;
- State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) - SHPD 6E and Section 106; and
- City and County of Honolulu - Special Management Area Use Permit Resolution No. 20-21, CD1.

The two expired permits which will be acquired once funding is available, are:

- Department of Army - Section 10 and Section 404 Permit; and
- Department of Health, Environmental Management Division - Section 401 Water Quality Certification.

The City and its consultant have scheduled pre-consultation meetings with the federal and state permitting agencies, to prepare for the resubmission of the permit applications pending funding approval, so that the project can move forward expeditiously.

One hundred percent of the State Green Fee allocation will be spent on the sand nourishment below the high-water mark.

The City recognizes the State may have concerns regarding funding a project in front of a City and County park, despite the fact that this Green Fee project is serving exclusively the State jurisdictional area below the high-water mark. The City respectfully assures the State that it has taken responsibility and has fully funded all land-based improvements to the park areas mauka of the beach itself.

<u>City-funded improvements to land above AMRP high-water mark over past eight years:</u>

- Canal wall and bridge replacement
- ʻĀina Moana parking lot reconstruction
- Hawaiian Pond shoreline improvement
- Japanese Pond improvements including installation of hardscape on pond edges & island and installation of walkway to seating area at pond edge with lighting
- Lester McCoy Pavilion Improvements, including:
    - Perimeter: Install security gates and screens at outer perimeter of entry pavilion, reconstruct ʻEwa entry walkway to auditorium and electrical, mechanical replacement for code compliance
    - Auditorium: Reconstruct concrete floor, replace AV and lighting system, renovate dressing room and replace doors, air conditioner replacement
    - Dining Room: Provide mechanical ventilation
    - Kitchen: Remove non-compliant grease trap
    - Main Bathroom: Reconstruct bathrooms for ADA Compliance and replace sewer line
    - Landscape Planters: Remove and replace trees as necessary to address building improvements/maintenance
    - Portico Breezeways: Reset pavers and rehabilitate gates
    - Banyan Courtyard: Construct cut-off walls at four banyan trees and replace all uplifted pavers
- LED light conversion
- ʻEwa bathhouse renovation and variety of improvements
- Ala Moana Park Drive improvements
- Renovations to Diamondhead Comfort stations
- Painted Magic Island comfort stations
- Installation of 25 surveillance cameras
- Converting the practice tennis courts to dedicated pickleball
- Tree planting along Ala Moana Park Drive

We respectfully and wholeheartedly encourage the Legislature to support the allocation of $6,750,000 for the beach nourishment project at Ala Moana Regional Park.

If you have any questions regarding the project, please don't hesitate to contact me at (808) 768-3001.

Sincerely,

Laura H. Thielen
Director

RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.
Mayor

JOSIAH K. NISHITA
Managing Director

ERIN K. WADE
Deputy Managing Director

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAI'I 96793
www.mauicounty.gov

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Richard T. Bissen, Jr., Mayor
Shayne Agawa, Director for the Department of Environmental Management

DATE: March 27, 2026

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT OF HB1800 HD1 RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET.**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT** of this important measure which adjusts and requests appropriations for fiscal biennium 2025-2027 funding requirements for operations and capital improvement projects of Executive Branch agencies and programs. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

On behalf of the County of Maui and our Department of Environmental Management, we want to respectfully request for your support of HB1800 specifically regarding the appropriations within the budget that provide funding for the Central Maui Waste Water Reclamation Facility – a critical infrastructure project essential to public health, environmental protection, and long-term water security for Central Maui.

In FY27, the County is seeking $10,570,320 in State funding to complete the design phase of this facility. Advancing the project to a design-ready stage is essential to maintaining schedule, controlling costs, and ensuring compliance with evolving regulatory and environmental requirements.

Maui County is demonstrating a significant local commitment to this project. In FY27, the County plans to allocate approximately $125 million toward construction, including:

- $75 million from County General Excise Tax (GET) revenues; and
- $50 million from Disaster Recovery and Economic Development Administration (DR/EDA) funds.

State investment in the design phase will leverage substantial County and federal resources, position the project for timely construction, and help ensure resilient wastewater infrastructure for one of Maui's most

heavily populated regions. Additionally, the completion of this project will serve other State assets such as the school and Pulehunui.

Thank you for your time and consideration – again we respectfully ask the Committee to pass this bill with the requested mentioned appropriations.

Mahalo for your leadership and support.

Richard T. Bissen, Jr., Mayor
Shayne Agawa, Director for the Department of Environmental Management
County of Maui
Support Testimony for HB1800 HD1

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
KE KE'ENA O KA MEIA
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

530 SOUTH KING STREET, ROOM 300 • HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96813
PHONE: (808) 768-4141 • FAX: (808) 768-4242 • WEBSITE: honolulu.gov

RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR
MEIA

MICHAEL D. FORMBY
MANAGING DIRECTOR
PO'O HO'OKELE

KRISHNA F. JAYARAM
DEPUTY MANAGING DIRECTOR
HOPE PO'O HO'OKELE

March 31, 2026

The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
The Honorable Sharon Moriwaki, Vice-Chair
and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means
415 South Beretania Street, Rm 211
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Moriwaki and Committee Members:

SUBJECT: Support for House Bill 1800 HD1

The City and County of Honolulu (City), **strongly supports HB1800**, particularly the provisions appropriating funding to HMS 777 for the Homeless Outreach and Navigation for Unsheltered Persons (HONU) program and the A'ala Respite (AMR) program.

The City greatly values its partnership with the State in addressing homelessness, which remains one of the most complex challenges facing our community. While these programs are operated by the City, they were developed in alignment with the State's broader strategy to address homelessness through coordinated outreach, stabilization services, and pathways to housing. As such, they function as integral components of the statewide homelessness response system.

The HONU and AMR programs have become critical elements of O'ahu's crisis response network, helping connect unsheltered individuals with immediate services, stabilization resources, and longer-term housing opportunities. These programs advance a coordinated, data-driven, and compassionate approach that prioritizes stabilization, treatment, and long-term housing outcomes for individuals experiencing homelessness.

The City also contributes substantial resources to support these efforts beyond the State's use of general funds. For example, the City provides key facilities and infrastructure that allow these programs to operate in locations where services are most needed. The A'ala Respite program operates at A'ala Park, a City-owned facility in the heart of downtown Honolulu, where the City provides the space while a contracted

service provider delivers the day-to-day services. Identifying a similarly accessible location at an affordable cost would be extremely difficult for either the State or a service provider to secure independently. The City also contributes parks, buildings, operational coordination, and public safety support that allow these programs to function effectively.

In addition, the City works closely with State agencies to support encampment resolution efforts, improve outreach coordination, and reduce reliance on emergency medical and public safety systems among unsheltered individuals. Programs like HONU play a vital role in diverting individuals from repeated emergency service use by connecting them with appropriate medical, behavioral health, and social service supports.

It is also important to recognize that approximately seventy percent of the State's homeless population resides on Oʻahu. As a result, many of the State's largest and most comprehensive response programs are necessarily located here in order to effectively serve the majority of individuals experiencing homelessness in Hawaiʻi.

Together, joint City and State investments have made measurable progress in expanding system capacity and improving placements into shelter and housing. Between Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025, the City and its partners achieved an increase of 937 additional beds compared to Fiscal Years 2022–2023, including specialized beds and services that address the root causes of homelessness.

The proposed appropriation of $8,000,000 to support these programs is vital to sustaining and strengthening this collaborative work. These investments help ensure that the State and City can continue operating a coordinated response system that addresses immediate needs while moving individuals toward long-term stability and housing.

The City appreciates the Legislature's recognition that addressing homelessness requires strong partnerships and shared responsibility across jurisdictions. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in strong support of this measure. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Anthony Miranda, Legislative Liaison, at (808) 768-6608.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Formby
Managing Director

James E. Hustace
Council Member
District 9
North & South Kohala

Waimea: (808) 887-6077
Hilo: (808) 961-8564
james.hustace@hawaiicounty.gov

HAWAIʻI COUNTY COUNCIL

25 Aupuni Street | Hilo, Hawaiʻi 96720

March 31, 2026

Testimony of James E. Hustace
Council Member, Hawaiʻi County Council

Before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

On
HB1800 HD1, Relating to the State Budget

Wednesday, April 1, 2026, 10am
Conference Room 211

Chair Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Senator Sharon Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and esteemed Members of the Committee,

I am writing in my capacity as an elected representative serving the Kohala communities to express my support for HB1800 HD1, which establishes the State's supplemental budget for the 2025–2027 fiscal biennium.

This measure is critical to maintaining essential public services while advancing strategic investments in infrastructure, environmental stewardship, healthcare access, and community resilience across Hawaiʻi.

I respectfully request the Committee's support for the following key investments that are especially important to our North Hawaiʻi communities:

- **Emergency Response and Community Center at Spencer Kalani Schutte Park, Hawaiʻi** – $5,000,000 in State funding for plans, design, and construction of a new community center and emergency shelter, contingent upon matching funds from the County of Hawaiʻi. North Hawaiʻi faces increasing risks from wildfires, hurricanes, and other natural hazards, and recent events have underscored the limitations of existing facilities. This centrally located site in Waimea is ideally suited to serve as a regional hub for emergency response, evacuation, and community resilience.

- **Pololū Trailhead and Historic Trail Improvements, Hawaiʻi** – $1,000,000 for planning, design, and implementation of improvements identified in the DLNR Pololū Trailhead Management Plan and Final Environmental Assessment. Proposed improvements will better manage visitor access, enhance safety, address sanitation needs, and protect the cultural and natural integrity of this

highly visited and culturally significant North Kohala site, consistent with community-driven planning efforts.

- **West Hawai‘i Medical Office Building, Hawai‘i** – $50,000,000 for design, planning, site preparation, and initial development of a multi-phase medical office facility to expand outpatient primary and specialty care, urgent care services, and ancillary services such as lab and radiology. This investment is essential to improving access to healthcare services for residents of West Hawai‘i, where capacity challenges and geographic barriers persist.

- **Waimea Irrigation System Improvements, Hawai‘i** – $1,150,000 for plans, design, and construction to improve the Waimea Irrigation System. This project will strengthen water reliability for agricultural operations, support local food production, and enhance long-term sustainability for farming in North Hawai‘i. Improvements will also support operations at the Waimea-Kohala Airport and enhance regional fire suppression capacity.

These investments reflect urgent, on-the-ground needs in rural Hawai‘i and will deliver long-term benefits for both our communities and the State as a whole.

I respectfully urge the Committee to retain and prioritize funding for these initiatives as the measure moves forward. Thank you for your consideration and for your continued commitment to serving the people of Hawai‘i.

Mahalo nui,



James E. Hustace
Hawai‘i County Council Member
District 9 (North & South Kohala)

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
DEREK S.K. KAWAKAMI, MAYOR
REIKO MATSUYAMA, MANAGING DIRECTOR

Testimony of Reiko Matsuyama
Managing Director, County of Kaua'i

Before the
Committee on Ways and Means
April 1, 2026; 10:00 AM
Conference Room 211 & Videoconference

In consideration of
House Bill 1800 HD1 Relating to the State Budget

Honorable Chair Dela Cruz, Honorable Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee:

The County of Kaua'i is in strong support of HB 1800 HD1, which would adjust and requests appropriations for fiscal biennium 2025-2027 funding requirements for operations and capital improvement projects of the Executive Branch agencies and programs, and particularly the capital improvement funding for the design and construction for the Lima Ola and Kaumuali'i highway intersection improvements.

The new signalized highway intersection is a necessary component of Phases II, III, and IV of the County's Lima Ola Affordable Housing Subdivision. At full build out, this 75-acre master planned subdivision will provide over 600 new permanently affordable homes for Kaua'i families. Lima Ola is the County's largest project to date focused on addressing our island's dramatic housing affordability crisis.

With almost all the 155 units in Phase I complete and occupied, we are awaiting final permit approval for Phase II and portions of Phases III & IV. We plan to go out to bid on Phase II this fiscal year, setting the stage for infrastructure work supporting another 175 homes. This highway intersection will ensure a safer ingress and egress to the subdivision and alleviate potential impacts on the surrounding communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of HB 1800 HD1.



Care for ʻĀina Now Coalition Letter
HB1800: Relating To The State Budget
In support of Hawaiʻi Green Fee Project Portfolio Inclusion

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, Members of the Committee,

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of the green fee projects within HB1800 on behalf of the Care for ʻĀina Now (CAN) coalition.

Care for ʻĀina Now is a diverse coalition of more than 70 organizations, businesses, and community leaders from across Hawaiʻi dedicated to protecting, restoring, and responsibly managing Hawaiʻi's natural and cultural resources. CAN advocates for dedicated funding to support ʻāina stewardship, climate change resilience, and natural disaster mitigation, with a strong focus on ensuring Green Fee revenues are used appropriately, transparently, and in alignment with community and environmental priorities.

The proposed green fee projects in HB1800 are informed by the recommendations of the Green Fee Advisory Council, which integrates over 600+ proposals from community groups across the pae ʻāina. These priorities include coral restoration, protecting land and aquatic resources, preserving native species, reducing wildfire and flood risks, strengthening infrastructure, supporting destination management, and improving parks and beaches.These projects represent a strong, diverse, and effective portfolio of work to meet our climate, sustainability, and stewardship goals intended by Act 96.

We urge the Legislature to support the Project Recommendations, and work with state agencies to encourage strong community leadership and comanagement to fulfill these ambitious and important priorities. This funding is transformational for what we can accomplish as a climate leader setting precedent across the nation, and we hope that collaboration between community-based organizations and state agencies is an instrumental piece of how this process operates in practice.



Care for ʻĀina Now coalition respectfully urges the committee to pass the portfolio and move this measure forward. We are grateful to the House for their leadership in this process, and welcome ways to support as a long-standing coalition of conservation community leaders.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

These community groups, organizations and businesses support funding for ʻāina, resilience, restoration, protection, management, and stewardship solutions for the communities of Hawaiʻi.

1. Agripelago
2. Agriculture Stewardship Hawaiʻi
3. Blue Planet Foundation
4. Benioff Ocean Science Laboratory
5. Care About Climate
6. Citizens' Climate Lobby Hawaiʻi
7. Climate Future Forum
8. Conservation Council for Hawaiʻi
9. Conservation International
10. Conservation Council of Hawaiʻi
11. Coral Reef Alliance
12. Delphi Cinema
13. Excurinsure
14. Everblue
15. Fish Pono–Save Our Reefs
16. Friends of Hanauma Bay
17. Full Circle Farm
18. FutureSwell
19. Global Preservation Initiative
20. Good Food Movement
21. Hanalei Initiative
22. Hawaiʻi Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA)



23. Hawai‘i Alliance for Community Based Economic Development (HACBED)
24. Hawaiian Council
25. Hawai‘i Environmental Change Agents
26. Hawai‘i Green Growth
27. Hawai‘i Impact Collaborative
28. Hawai‘i Land Trust
29. Hawai‘i Reef and Ocean Coalition
30. Hawai‘i Wildlife Fund
31. Hawai‘i Youth Climate Coalition
32. Ka‘ala Farms
33. Kailua Beach Adventures
34. Kauai Climate Action Coalition
35. Kauai Farm Planning
36. Kanu Hawai‘i
37. Kingdom Pathways
38. Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo (KUA)
39. Kuleana Coral Restoration
40. Kupu
41. Limahuli Garden and Preserve
42. Leftover Love Co
43. Mālama Huleia
44. Mālama Learning Center
45. Mālama Maunalua
46. Mālama Pupukea-Waimea
47. Maui Bicycling League
48. Maui Ocean Center
49. Maui Ocean Center Marine Institute
50. National Tropical Botanical Garden
51. Native Ecosystem Services
52. The Nature Conservancy



53. North Shore Community Land Trust
54. Ocean Music Action
55. Palehua Conservation Initiative
56. Papahānaumokuākea Marine Debris Project
57. Parley for the Oceans
58. Pono Hawai'i Initiative
59. Protea Zero Waste Store
60. Resources Legacy Fund
61. Reuse Hawai'i
62. Surfrider Foundation Hawai'i Chapters
63. Sustainable Coastlines Hawai'i
64. Sustainable Moloka'i
65. Travel2Change
66. Trust for Public Land
67. Wai'oli Valley Taro Hui
68. Waipā Foundation
69. Wakeful State
70. Wastewater Alternatives & Innovations (WAI)
71. Wild Kids
72. Young Progressives Demanding Action
73. Zero Waste Hawai'i Island

Mahalo for your consideration to protect Hawai'i's natural resources.

KUA'ĀINA ULU 'AUAMO

Testimony Before The
Senate Committee on Ways and Means (WAM)
IN SUPPORT OF HB1800 HD1
March 30, 2026, 10:00 a.m., Room 211 & 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 HB1800 HD1, and urges the inclusion of funding recommendations as set forth by the Green Fee Advisory Council.

We strongly supported the passage of Act 96 (2025) to establish environmental stewardship "green" fees, and still believe that empowering our Native Hawaiian and local communities in direct environmental management and governance, often in collaboration with our state agencies, is *key* to overcoming the many challenges of our climate crisis and negative effects of tourism. Act 96 requires funds collected through the "green fee," to be equally allocated to support healthy 'āina ecosystems, resilient communities, and visitor management. As such, we strongly urge your committee to consider the Funding Recommendations of the Green Fee Advisory Council, particularly supporting Environmental Stewardship and the Green Fee Community Stewardship Program. This session KUA is also supporting passage of HB1949, establishing a Green Fee Transparency & Accountability Program and Resiliency Impact Dashboard, and hope you will continue to support that measure as well.

We appreciate the necessary, creative, and collaborative approaches our state supports that build up our incoming generations with intention, and in a way that benefits ongoing community efforts to support ecosystem regeneration. The communities we work with are

committed to ensuring the long-term health of our biocultural ʻāina 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 sustained and long-term commitments toward achieving ʻāina momona abundance once again.** To get there requires maintaining essential ʻauwai (resource flows) for mālama ʻāina efforts and people, including through this bill. Our decisions today will continue to shape the future that our keiki's keiki's keiki will one day inherit – we hope for a future of shared and harmonious abundance, and hope you do, too.

Mahalo nui loa for this opportunity to submit testimony. Please **PASS** HB1800 HD1, with careful consideration given to the Green Fee Advisory Committee Funding Recommendations.

Aloha ʻĀina Momona no nā kau ā kau.

Testimony in Strong Support of HB100 HD1 Relating to the State Budget
Submitted to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means
State of Hawai‘i Legislature

Aloha Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Paige Deponte and I am the Founder and Executive Director of Spirit Horse Ranch Inc., a Maui based nonprofit organization providing trauma informed equine assisted services to youth, families, first responders, veterans, and individuals experiencing crisis across Maui and Moloka‘i.

I respectfully submit this testimony in strong support of HB100 HD1 and urge the Committee to ensure that Hawai‘i’s state budget meaningfully invests in trauma informed behavioral health solutions that address the realities facing our communities today.

Across Hawai‘i, our communities are facing unprecedented levels of trauma, anxiety, depression, addiction, and family instability. Maui in particular continues to navigate the long term impacts of the August 8, 2023 wildfires, layered on top of years of economic strain, disaster response, and limited access to behavioral health care.

Traditional systems alone cannot meet the scale of this need.

Hawai‘i must begin investing in innovative, evidence informed approaches that address trauma at its biological root.

Trauma is not only psychological. It is neurological and physiological. Chronic stress dysregulates the nervous system, affects brain development, and impacts how individuals process fear, safety, and connection. Modern neuroscience increasingly recognizes that healing requires approaches that regulate the nervous system, rebuild trust, and restore a sense of safety within the body.

Trauma informed equine assisted services are one of the most effective modalities emerging worldwide for addressing these needs.

At Spirit Horse Ranch, horses act as powerful biofeedback partners. As prey animals with highly attuned nervous systems, horses mirror human emotional states and provide immediate non verbal feedback. Through structured, trauma informed interactions with horses, participants learn to regulate breathing, heart rate, emotional responses, and behavioral patterns. These experiences create measurable shifts in nervous system regulation and help rebuild neural pathways associated with safety, connection, and resilience.

This work is grounded in neuroscience, attachment theory, somatic regulation, and trauma informed care models such as Natural Lifemanship, HeartMath coherence training, and brain based healing techniques that are increasingly being integrated into behavioral health practice.

Since opening our doors to the community in early 2023, Spirit Horse Ranch has delivered more than 4,500 trauma informed sessions to individuals and families across Maui and Molokaʻi.

Participants include youth in crisis, wildfire survivors, foster families, veterans, individuals on the autism spectrum, first responders, and families navigating severe stress and trauma.

Our programs operate in collaboration with schools, counselors, the Maui Police Department, juvenile justice programs, Job Corps, Aunites House, and numerous community based organizations that refer youth and families who often struggle to access traditional mental health services.

Many of the young people we serve are on waitlists for clinical care or are reluctant to enter traditional office based therapy environments. Equine assisted services provide a culturally resonant and stigma free entry point where individuals can engage in healing through relationship, movement, and connection to the land.

Our programs also support veterans and individuals on the autism spectrum who frequently face barriers to traditional services.

Veterans often experience complex trauma, post traumatic stress, and nervous system dysregulation following years of service and exposure to high stress environments. Many struggle with hypervigilance, isolation, and difficulty reintegrating into civilian life. Working with horses allows veterans to rebuild trust, regulate stress responses, and reconnect with calm and presence in ways that traditional clinical settings often cannot achieve.

Equine assisted services have also demonstrated significant benefits for individuals on the autism spectrum. Horses provide clear and consistent non verbal communication that many neurodivergent individuals find easier to understand than complex human social cues. Activities such as grooming, leading, and riding help improve emotional regulation, sensory processing, communication skills, and confidence while supporting coordination and balance.

Outcomes observed in our programs consistently demonstrate improvements in emotional regulation, stress recognition, accountability, communication, and family stabilization. In many cases we see youth who arrive in crisis begin to stabilize, reconnect with school, obtain employment, and rebuild relationships within their families.

This approach works because it addresses trauma from the bottom up, beginning with nervous system regulation rather than relying solely on cognitive processing.

At a systems level, investing in preventative and trauma informed services reduces long term costs associated with emergency room visits, incarceration, substance abuse treatment, and chronic mental health care. Programs that build resilience and regulation early in the cycle of crisis help stabilize individuals before they enter higher cost systems of care.

Across the United States and internationally, trauma informed equine assisted services are increasingly recognized as effective complements to behavioral health systems, particularly in rural communities and areas with limited provider availability.

Hawai‘i has the opportunity to become a national leader in supporting these innovative, neuroscience informed approaches.

Yet despite the growing evidence and the urgent need across our islands, programs providing this work remain largely unsupported within the state’s behavioral health funding framework.

We respectfully ask the Legislature and this Committee to consider how the state budget can begin supporting trauma informed community based programs that expand access to care, strengthen families, and build long term resilience across Hawai‘i.

Our communities deserve solutions that reflect the science of trauma and the realities of the world we live in today.

Spirit Horse Ranch stands ready to continue serving Hawai‘i’s families, youth, first responders, veterans, and individuals with autism, but we cannot do this work alone.

We ask the State of Hawai‘i to step forward and invest in the future of trauma informed care.

Mahalo for your consideration and for your commitment to the health and wellbeing of Hawai‘i’s people.

Respectfully submitted,
Paige Deponte
Founder and Executive Director
Spirit Horse Ranch Inc.
Maui, Hawai‘i

www.thepirithorseranch.org/ 808-280-7070 / info@thespsirthorseranchg.org



Care for ʻĀina Now Coalition Letter
HB1800: Relating To The State Budget
In support of Hawaiʻi Green Fee Project Portfolio Inclusion

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, Members of the Committee,

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of the green fee projects within HB1800 on behalf of the Care for ʻĀina Now (CAN) coalition.

Care for ʻĀina Now is a diverse coalition of more than 70 organizations, businesses, and community leaders from across Hawaiʻi dedicated to protecting, restoring, and responsibly managing Hawaiʻi's natural and cultural resources. CAN advocates for dedicated funding to support ʻāina stewardship, climate change resilience, and natural disaster mitigation, with a strong focus on ensuring Green Fee revenues are used appropriately, transparently, and in alignment with community and environmental priorities.

The proposed green fee projects in HB1800 are informed by the recommendations of the Green Fee Advisory Council, which integrates over 600+ proposals from community groups across the pae ʻāina. These priorities include coral restoration, protecting land and aquatic resources, preserving native species, reducing wildfire and flood risks, strengthening infrastructure, supporting destination management, and improving parks and beaches.These projects represent a strong, diverse, and effective portfolio of work to meet our climate, sustainability, and stewardship goals intended by Act 96.

We urge the Legislature to support the Project Recommendations, and work with state agencies to encourage strong community leadership and comanagement to fulfill these ambitious and important priorities. This funding is transformational for what we can accomplish as a climate leader setting precedent across the nation, and we hope that collaboration between community-based organizations and state agencies is an instrumental piece of how this process operates in practice.



Care for ʻĀina Now coalition respectfully urges the committee to pass the portfolio and move this measure forward. We are grateful to the House for their leadership in this process, and welcome ways to support as a long-standing coalition of conservation community leaders.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

These community groups, organizations and businesses support funding for ʻāina, resilience, restoration, protection, management, and stewardship solutions for the communities of Hawaiʻi.

1. Agripelago
2. Agriculture Stewardship Hawaiʻi
3. Blue Planet Foundation
4. Benioff Ocean Science Laboratory
5. Care About Climate
6. Citizens' Climate Lobby Hawaiʻi
7. Climate Future Forum
8. Conservation Council for Hawaiʻi
9. Conservation International
10. Conservation Council of Hawaiʻi
11. Coral Reef Alliance
12. Delphi Cinema
13. Excurinsure
14. Everblue
15. Fish Pono–Save Our Reefs
16. Friends of Hanauma Bay
17. Full Circle Farm
18. FutureSwell
19. Global Preservation Initiative
20. Good Food Movement
21. Hanalei Initiative
22. Hawaiʻi Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA)



23. Hawai‘i Alliance for Community Based Economic Development (HACBED)
24. Hawaiian Council
25. Hawai‘i Environmental Change Agents
26. Hawai‘i Green Growth
27. Hawai‘i Impact Collaborative
28. Hawai‘i Land Trust
29. Hawai‘i Reef and Ocean Coalition
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41. Limahuli Garden and Preserve
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50. National Tropical Botanical Garden
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52. The Nature Conservancy



53. North Shore Community Land Trust
54. Ocean Music Action
55. Palehua Conservation Initiative
56. Papahānaumokuākea Marine Debris Project
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64. Sustainable Moloka'i
65. Travel2Change
66. Trust for Public Land
67. Wai'oli Valley Taro Hui
68. Waipā Foundation
69. Wakeful State
70. Wastewater Alternatives & Innovations (WAI)
71. Wild Kids
72. Young Progressives Demanding Action
73. Zero Waste Hawai'i Island

Mahalo for your consideration to protect Hawai'i's natural resources.

HPCA
HAWAI'I PRIMARY CARE ASSOCIATION

Testimony to the House Committee on Ways and Means
Monday, March 30, 2026; 10:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 211
Via Videoconference

RE: HOUSE BILL NO. 1800, HOUSE DRAFT 1, RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET.

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Primary Care Association (HPCA) is a 501(c)(3) organization established to advocate for, expand access to, and sustain high quality care through the statewide network of Community Health Centers throughout the State of Hawaii. The HPCA **SUPPORTS** House Bill No. 1800, House Draft 1, RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET.

By way of background, the HPCA represents Hawaii's Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs). FQHCs provide desperately needed medical services at the frontlines to over 150,000 patients each year who live in rural and underserved communities. Long considered champions for creating a more sustainable, integrated, and wellness-oriented system of health, FQHCs provide a more efficient, more effective and more comprehensive system of healthcare.

This bill, as received by your Committee, would make adjustments and appropriate funds for fiscal biennium 2025-2027 for operations and capital improvement projects of Executive Branch agencies and programs.

The bill would take effect on July 1, 3000.

ADD 1003 BISHOP STREET PAUAHI TOWER SUITE 1810 HONOLULU, HI 96813 TEL 808.536.8442 WEB HAWAIIPCA.NET

I. The Problem

During the interim following the Adjournment Sine Die of the 2025 Regular Session, three events took place that have enormous ramifications on Hawaii's social safety net. These were: the enactment of House Resolution No. 1 (H.R. 1), the "One Big Beautiful Bill" Act, which was signed into law on July 4, 2025; the reversal of interpretation of "federal public benefit" under the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, or "PRWORA", by the United States Department of Health and Human Services; and the announcement that the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services will share personal data of Medicaid enrollees to Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials.

In tandem, these three developments will fundamentally alter Hawaii's Medicaid Program by shifting current Medicaid recipients to the uninsured population. Among other things, H.R. 1 will:

(1) Prohibit the use of federal matching funds for health care services to immigrants not lawfully present under federal law, effective October 1, 2026;

(2) Establish work or volunteer requirements for all Medicaid recipients of at least 80 hours per month (or 20 hours per week), effective December 31, 2026; and

(3) Require redeterminations for every Medicaid recipient every six-months, also effective December 31, 2026.

Currently, Hawaii's uninsured population is estimated to be 38,400 or 2.8% of the total population. Based on research provided by the Kaiser Family Foundation as well as our review of Medicaid enrollment historically in Hawaii, we believe the uninsured population will at least double within two to three years if nothing is done.

Without health insurance coverage, citizens will no longer be able to manage chronic disease such as diabetes, high blood pressure, and other maladies. When they become ill, they will not get treated until the situation becomes so bad that they will need to go to a provider for emergency treatment. By then, the illness has become much more severe and costly to remedy. Also, by law, the emergency provider will have to provide stabilizing treatment to the patient regardless of the patient's ability to pay. These costs will subsequently be borne by the provider, creating additional stress to the safety net that is already facing reduced funding and reimbursement.

In the worst-case scenario, hospitals and FQHCs will not be able to treat the increase in indigent patients. While federal law requires FQHCs to provide services to all patients who are not eligible for Medicaid or private insurance on a sliding fee scale based on their ability to pay, federal grant funding to offset these costs were not adjusted to address the increase that will occur. As such, should Hawaii

experience the largest projected increase in uninsured (and assuming that the level of services currently provided remains the same), FQHCs will run out of funds within two to three months.

II. A Possible Solution

On December 19, 2025, the Senate Joint Committee on Health and Human Services and Consumer Protection was briefed by MedQUEST and the State Health Planning and Development Agency (SHPDA) on the impacts of these federal policy changes. During that briefing, SHPDA Administrator Jack Lewin stated that during the Waihee Administration, the Department of Health ran a very successful program that provided coverage for persons who could not obtain employer-sponsored health insurance under the Prepaid Health Care Act, but were not eligible for Medicaid because of income restrictions. This coverage offered a significantly reduced package of benefits (i.e., up to 6 doctor visits and some prescription drugs) and was provided by Medicaid managed care plans under an agreement with the State. According to Dr. Lewin, the State agreed to cover loss costs that go beyond a certain level. However, Lewin stated that loss costs never reached that point and that the expenditure of additional general funds were not necessary.

When the State established the MedQUEST Program, the "gap group" coverage was transferred from the Department of Health to the Department of Human Services. However, according to Meredith Nichols, acting MedQUEST Administrator, when the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services reviewed the coverage for the "gap group", they disallowed MedQUEST from offering it citing the need for coverages offered under the State's Medicaid Program to meet certain baseline benefit standards.

Despite this, the Green Administration did not submit a bill as part of his Legislative Package that would reestablishment of the "gap group" coverage under the Department of Health. However, there are measures pending further action that could conceivably address this problem:

- House Bill No. 1546, House Draft 1, which would establish a three-year Health Coverage Continuity Pilot Program to assist individuals who have lost Medicaid health insurance coverage and lack access to other health insurance options; and

- Senate Bill No. 2087, the companion to House Bill No. 1546, which is pending further action.

Both measures would require the infusion of a significant amount of State funds to either capitalize a new insurance program, or subsidize thousands of Medicaid enrollees who will shortly be disenrolled and become uninsured.

If the Legislature is so inclined, use of Emergency and Budget Reserve Funds for this purpose would be warranted to ensure the health, welfare, and safety of the general public.

III. High Stakes

The establishment of a high deductible or catastrophic health plan could result in unintended consequences. Hawaii is the only state that requires employers to offer health insurance to employees who work more than 20 hours per week. Hawaii is able to do this because the Prepaid Health Care Act is exempted from federal preemption under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. Hawaii retains this exemption so long as the substantive terms of the Prepaid Health Care Act are not materially changed.

It will be vital that the provision of a high deductible or catastrophic health plan not be construed by federal regulators as materially altering the Prepaid Health Care Act. Conceivably, this could happen if the implementation of such a program shifts the manner in which the Prepaid Health Care Act is enforced. Should that happen, such action could invalidate the preemption exemption that is necessary for the Prepaid Health Care Act to operate.

In addition, H.R. 1, includes provisions that require any program intended to replicate Medicaid benefits to a prohibited population be solely general funded. Violations of this could lead to the loss of more federal funding and the imposition of penalties to Hawaii's Medicaid Program.

IV. Two (2) Grant-in-Aid Requests

The HPCA, in partnership with Collective Energy, a mission-driven social benefit company specializing in clean energy and resilience solutions for community health centers, seeks to establish and deploy solar and storage microgrids at nonprofit community health centers across the State. These systems will strengthen energy reliance, reduce operational disruptions, and ensure that essential health services remain available to the public during grid failures.

FQHCs serve as frontline hubs for health, safety, and recovery during emergencies. We are trusted, community-based sites that provide services, dispense medications, offer safe gathering points, and protect vulnerable populations when other infrastructure is compromised.

Hawaii's geographic isolation, heavy reliance on imported fossil fuels, and exposure to hurricanes, wildfires, tsunamis, and extreme weather events significantly heighten the risks of prolonged power disruptions. The implementation of public safety power shutoffs by Hawaiian Electric in July 2024

further underscores the urgent need for reliable, decentralized, and clean energy sources for public-serving facilities.

Traditional diesel generators -- used by many FQHCs today -- are expensive to operate, require frequent maintenance, rely on fragile fuel supply chains, and contribute to harmful emissions. The proposed project directly addresses these challenges by enabling resilient, sustainable, and cost-effective energy infrastructure that ensures that FQHCs can continue providing essential public services before, during, and after emergencies.

The project seeks a total of $2.5 million in Capital Improvement Project (CIP) GIA, and $196,000 in a separate Operational GIA. The CIP GIA funding, leveraged with federal and State solar and energy storage incentives, will enable the development of up to nine solar plus storage microgrid systems, totaling approximately $6.2 million in capital improvement. The Operational GIA funding represents programmatic, project management, contract management, reporting and fiscal stewardship responsibilities, as well as developing future scalability plans.

If approved, this project will:

- Save participating FQHCs an estimated $16 million in electricity costs over twenty-five years, allowing them to repurpose scarce funds into patient care, delivery, staffing, and essential community health services;
- Add battery energy storage to increase resiliency during outages and reduce service disruptions, materially improving project return on investment by avoiding an estimated $11.9 million in power-outage losses across all sites over the system life;
- Ensure continuity of critical health center services during disasters and grid outages;
- Advance energy equity for medically underserved, low-income, and rural communities;
- Enable FQHCs to function as community resilience hubs;
- Support local workforce development and clean energy development by collaborating with Hawaii-based partners; and
- Establish a replicable and scalable model for future cohorts.

This project is vital for the financial stability of participating FQHCs. The enactment of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act has fundamentally changed our Medicaid system. We anticipate that in the worst-case scenario, Hawaii's uninsured population will at least double within the next three years. Most of the new uninsured will be former Medicaid enrollees who will lose their coverage.

FQHCs are required by law to provide services to all patients regardless of their ability to pay. For the uninsured, federal law prescribes a sliding fee schedule we can charge based on patient income. Most of the time, the amount received does not cover the cost of the services provided.

When there is no insurance reimbursement, the FQHC must rely on their operational funds to offset the losses. Under the worst-case scenario, if availability and level of services are kept at what we provide today, FQHCs will have less than three months of resources before we'd have to shut down.

This project will allow funds that would pay for electricity to go to patient services. This will provide the participating FQHCs with greater flexibility to meet the demands of their patients. Since most of these patients are Medicaid enrollees situated in the most geographically isolated communities throughout the State, support for this bill directly boosters our social safety net.

For these reasons, we urge your favorable consideration of this measure.

For your information and files, attached please find the transmittal receipt confirming submission of HPCA's CIP and Operational GIA applications to the Legislature on January 23, 2026, in accordance with Chapter 42F, HRS, and slides from a presentation given to the Office of the Governor in October 2025.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Public Affairs and Policy Director Erik K. Abe at 536-8442, or eabe@hawaiipca.net.

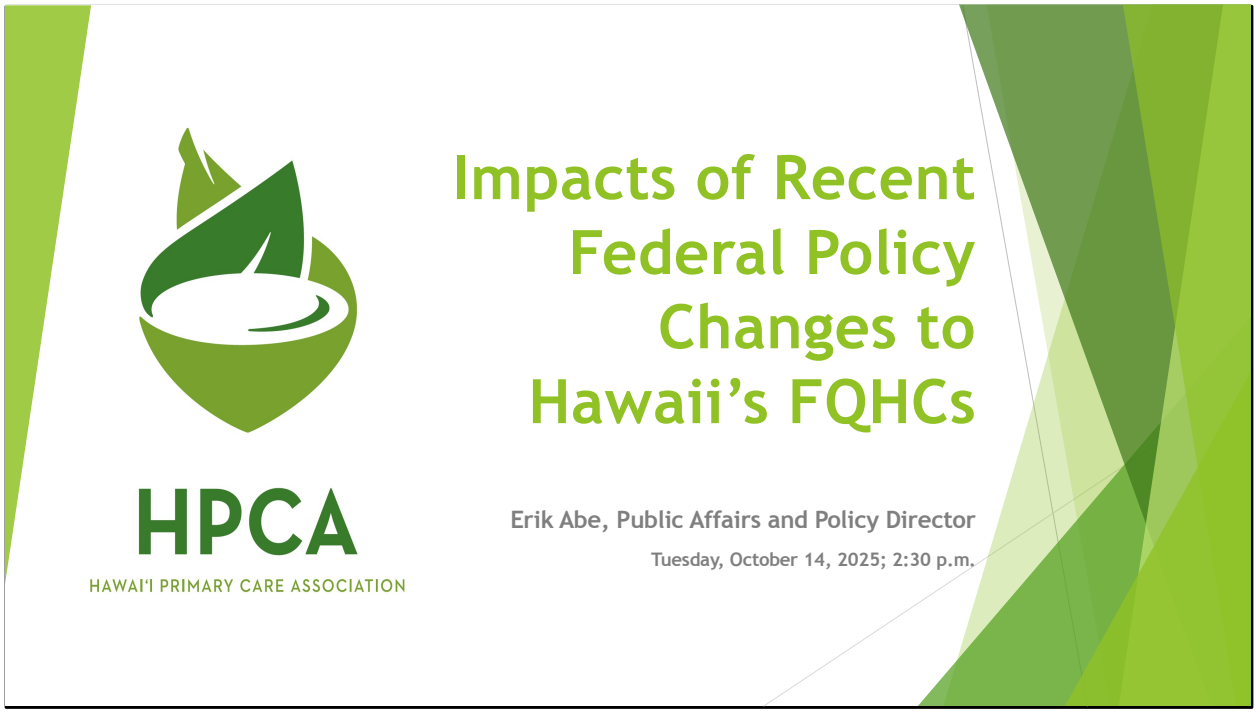
attachments

GRANT-IN-AID (GIA) REQUEST FORM

Form submitted successfully.

Previous Submissions

Type	Organization	Amount	Description	Submitted	Edit
Capital	Hawai'i Primary Care Association	$2,523,000.00	The Local Energy Initiative (LEI) – Health Centers project request for Capital Grant-in-Aid seeks to strengthen disaster resilience and protect essential healthcare services by supporting the purchase and installation of solar-plus-storage microgrids at nine nonprofit community health center sites across Oʻahu, Molokaʻi, Maui, and Hawaiʻi Island. Hawai'i Primary Care Association (HPCA), in partnership with Collective Energy aims to provide these health centers serving medically underserved urban, rural, and remote communities energy protections for essential operational during power outages, natural disasters, and Public Safety Power Shutoffs. The proposed microgrids will provide reliable backup power, reduce dependence on fragile fossil fuel supply chains, and stabilize long term energy costs, ensuring continuity of care during emergencies. This initiative protects critical public health infrastructure, advances energy equity, and establishes community health centers as resilient hubs capable of serving Hawaiʻi's most vulnerable populations during times of crisis. These funds support the purchase and installation of the equipment of the solar-plus-storage microgrids.	1/23/2026 12:00 AM	Edit
Operating	Hawai'i Primary Care Association	$196,000.00	The Local Energy Initiative (LEI) – Health Centers project request for Operational Grant in Aid seeks to strengthen disaster resilience and protect essential healthcare services by providing programmatic oversight of the deployment of solar-plus-storage microgrids at nine nonprofit community health center sites across Oʻahu, Molokaʻi, Maui, and Hawaiʻi Island. Hawai'i Primary Care Association (HPCA), in partnership with Collective Energy aims to provide these health centers serving medically underserved urban, rural, and remote communities energy protections for essential operational during power outages, natural disasters, and Public Safety Power Shutoffs. The proposed microgrids will provide reliable backup power, reduce dependence on fragile fossil fuel supply chains, and stabilize long term energy costs, ensuring continuity of care during emergencies. This initiative protects critical public health infrastructure, advances energy equity, and establishes community health centers as resilient hubs capable of serving Hawaiʻi's most vulnerable populations during times of crisis. These funds also support building on the success and scaling of the LEI-Health Centers project to other community health centers in Hawaiʻi.	1/23/2026 12:00 AM	Edit

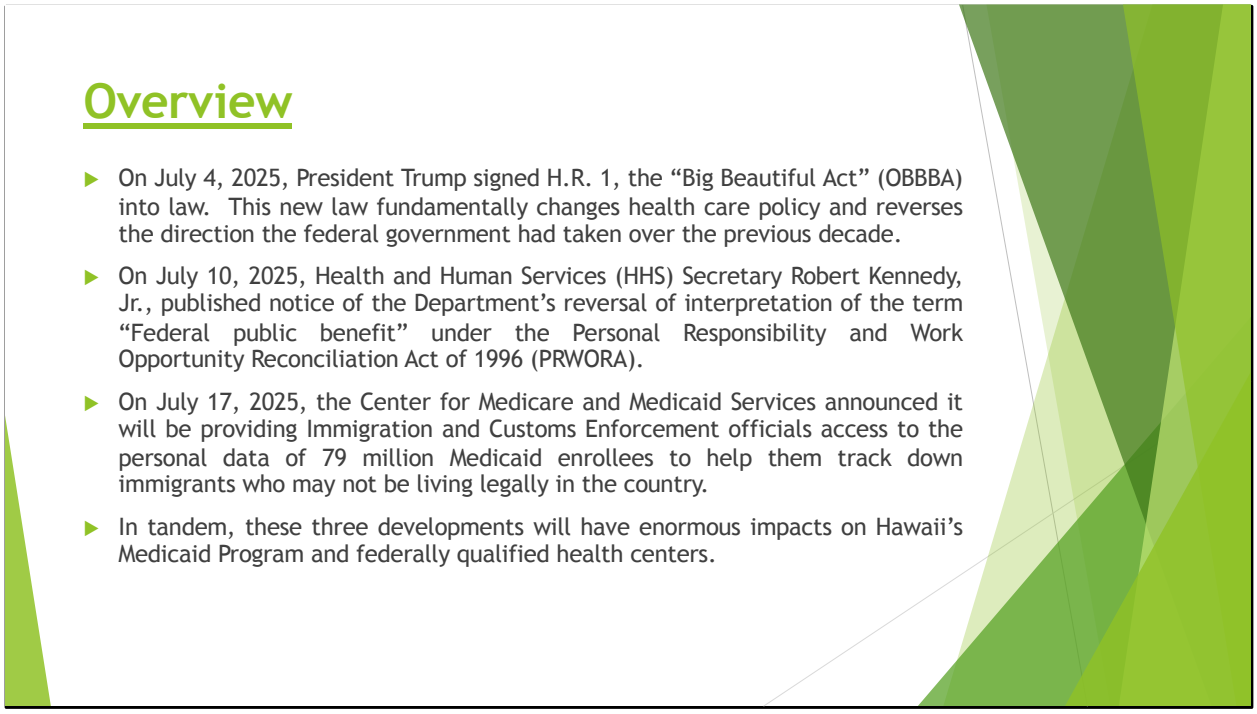


Thank you for this opportunity to present HPCA's analysis of recent federal policy changes to Hawaii's FQHCs and our Medicaid System.

If I do this right, I should be able to get through this presentation in15 minutes.

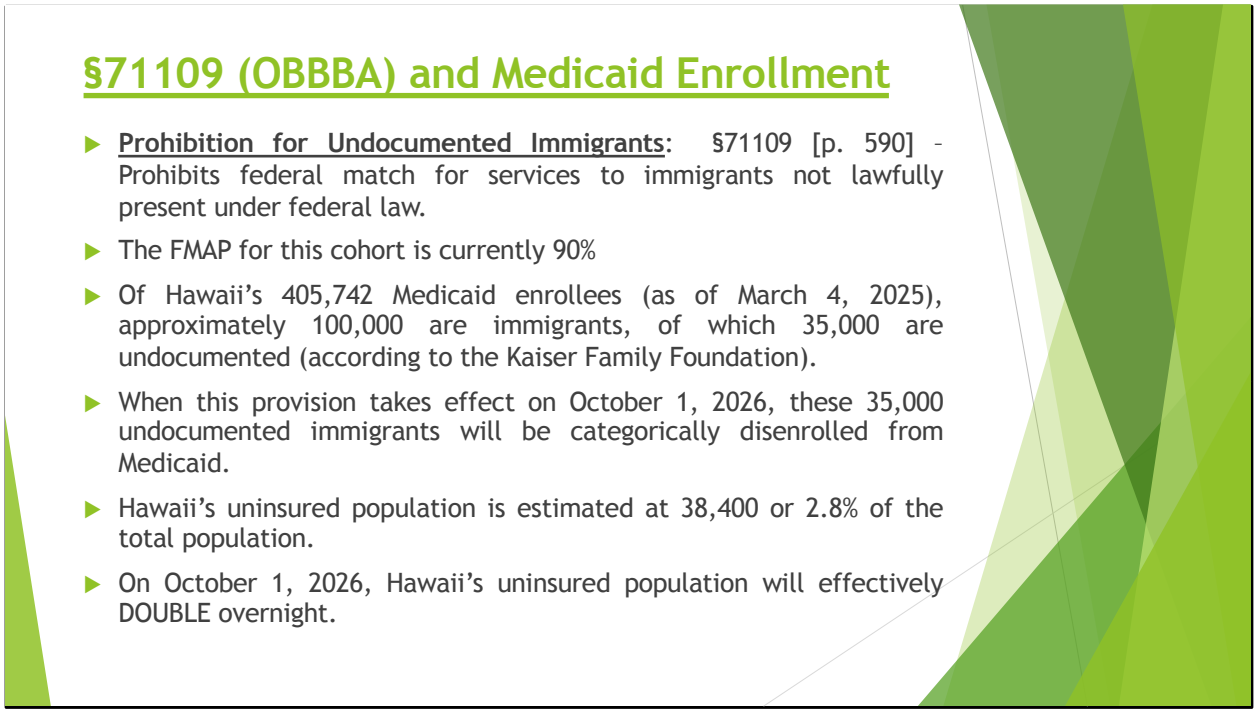
I. CHANGES TO FEDERAL LAW AND POLICY

Part I is entitled changes to federal law and policy.



There were three events that took place that change things -- the enactment of the "Big Beautiful Act"; the reversal of interpretation of "federal public benefit" under the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, or "PRWORA"; and the announcement that the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services will share personal data of Medicaid enrollees to Immigration and Customs Enforcement Officials.

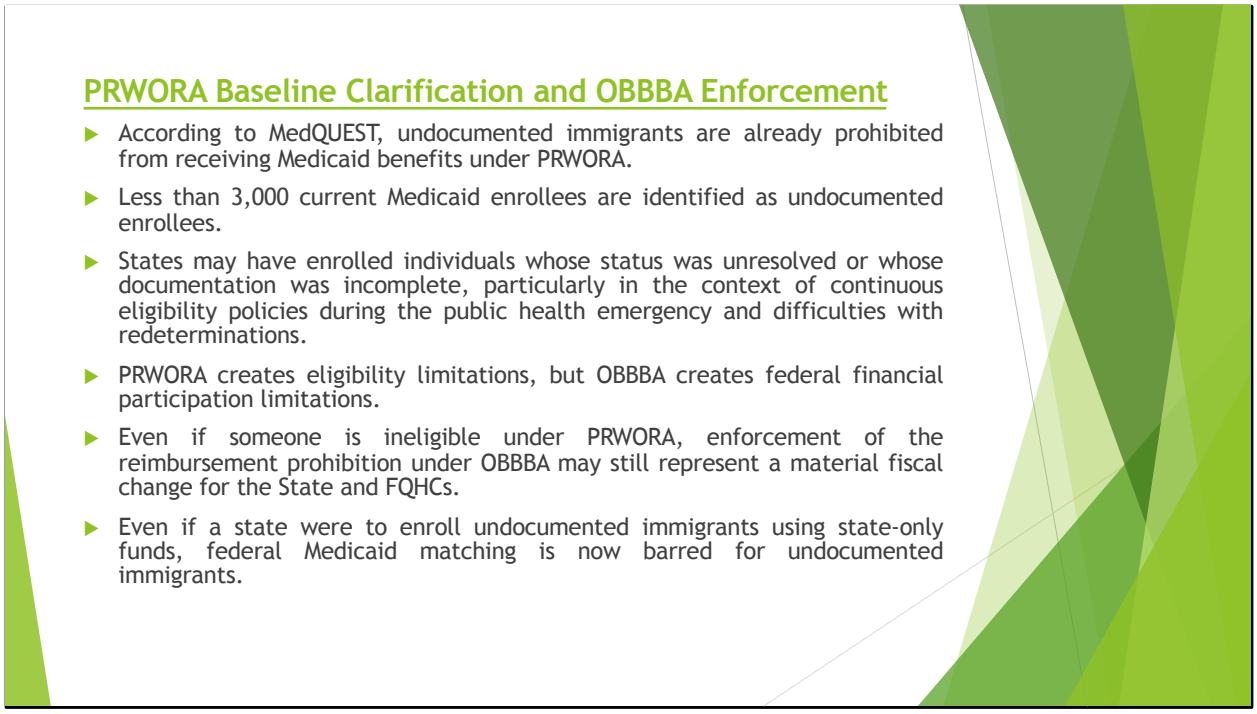
In tandem, these three developments have enormous impact on Hawaii's Medicaid Program and federally qualified health centers.



Prior to the enactment of the Big Beautiful Act, the federal government paid 90% of the costs incurred by immigrant Medicaid enrollees. However, Section 71109 of the Big Beautiful Act creates a categorical exclusion for service providers to receive federal reimbursement for undocumented immigrants.

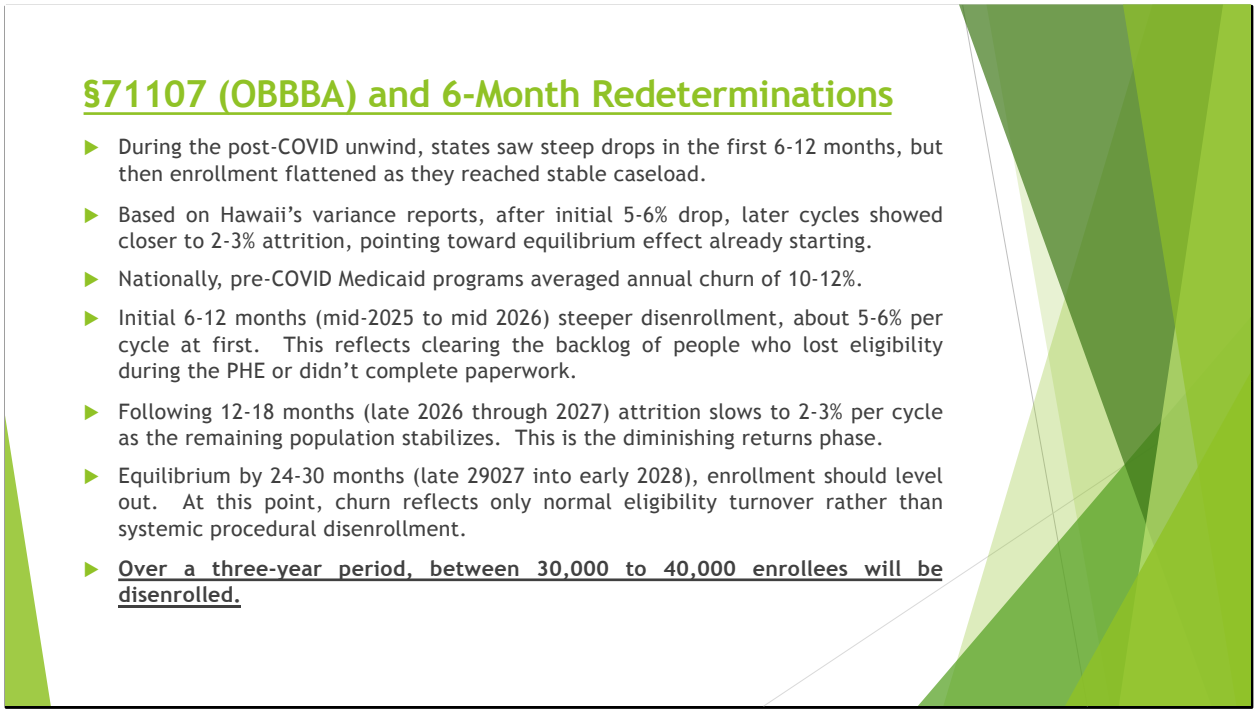
According to the Kaiser Family Foundation, of the 400,000 Medicaid enrollees in Hawaii, one-fourth or 100,000 are believed to be immigrants, of which 35,000 are thought to be undocumented. When this provision takes effect on October 1, 2026, these 35,000 undocumented immigrants will be shifted from Medicaid enrollees to the uninsured.

Currently, the uninsured rate is 2.8 percent of the population or approximately 38,400. On October 1, 2026, this rate will effectively DOUBLE overnight.



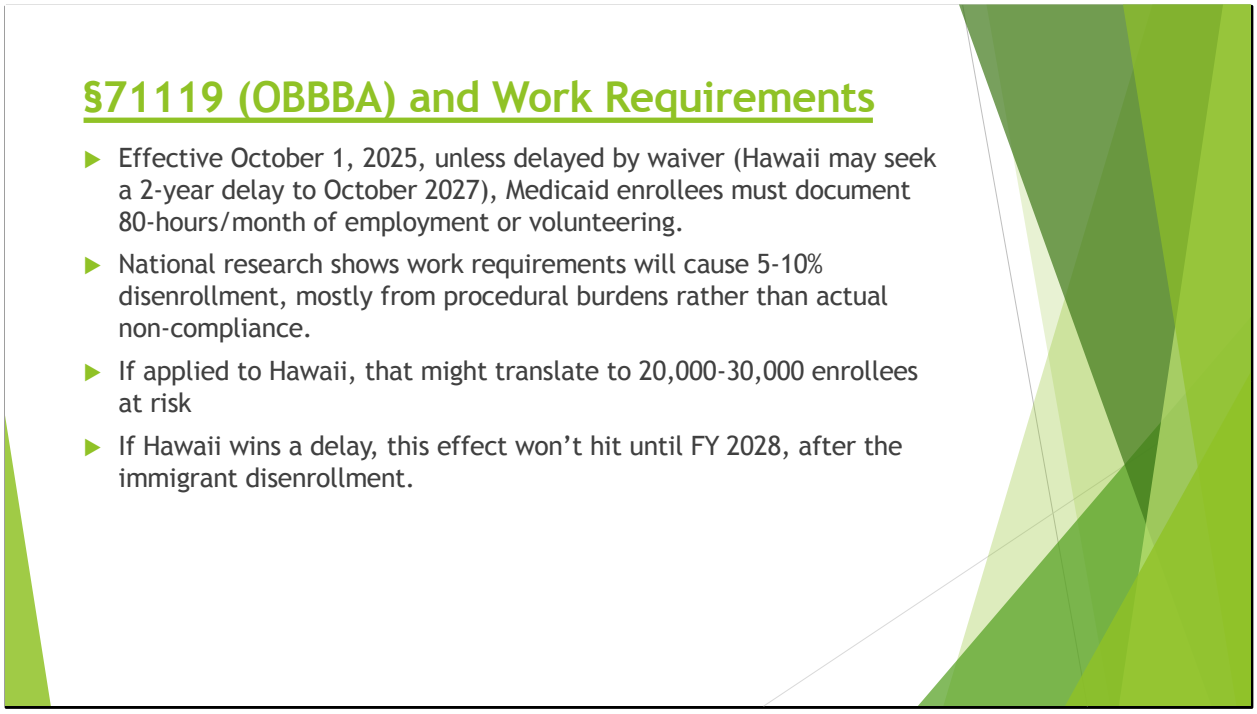
When we shared this information with our partner safety net organizations, MedQUEST responded that currently, less than 3,000 were logged in their system as "undocumented enrollees". We believe there are many more immigrants who are receiving benefits because while PRWORA establishes eligibility limitations at the time of application, these limitations do not preclude the states from paying for these benefits through general funds, as is the case with California, and Illinois, most notably. Because of this, we believe there are many more undocumented immigrants already enrolled in Medicaid.

The Big Beautiful Act changes things by establishing a federal reimbursement prohibition and enforcement mechanisms that will place greater responsibility on the States and providers to verify the eligibility of all Medicaid recipients.



The Big Beautiful Act also shortens the redetermination period for Medicaid enrollees from annually to every six months. Based on the Hawaii experience after the COVID flexibilities were removed prior to President Trump taking office, we believe that Hawaii will see a similar sharp decline in enrollment in the first twelve months and then a flattening over the following 24 months to an equilibrium point of 2-3% attrition every redetermination cycle.

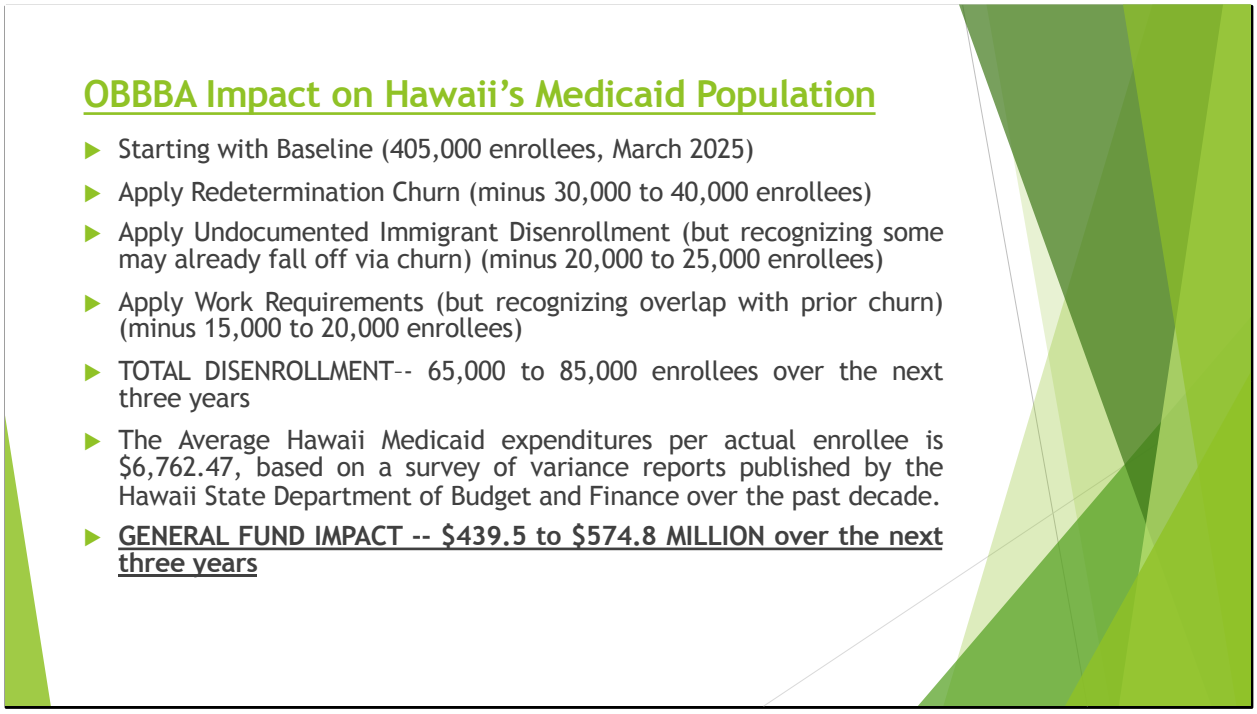
Over the next three years, we believe between 30,000 and 40,000 Medicaid enrollees will be disenrolled.



The Big Beautiful Act also establishes a requirement that all enrollees must work or volunteer at least 80 hours per month to remain eligible for Medicaid. National research indicates that work requirements will cause between 5 to 10% disenrollment, mostly from procedural burdens rather than actual non-compliance.

If applied to Hawaii, that might translate to 20,000 to 30,000 enrollees at-risk.

Hawaii might be able to delay this by two years if MedQUEST is successful in obtaining a two-year waiver from HHS.



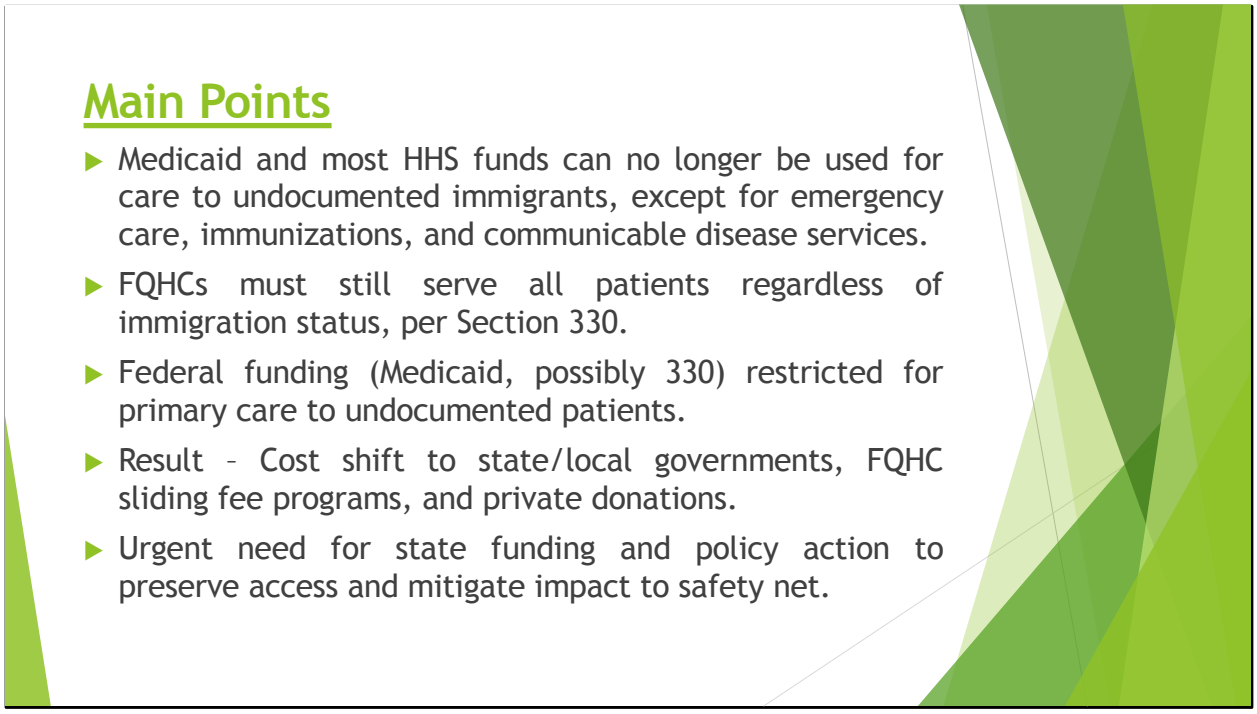
When you look at the entire picture taking into account duplication from persons who might be disenrolled for more than one reason, the HPCA used various models to get an idea of the scale of the impacts. A lot of assumptions were made in analyzing the worst-case scenario to get an idea of the fiscal impact.

We believe that between 65,000 to 85,000 enrollees will be disenrolled over the next three years if Hawaii is not able to obtain a two-year waiver for work requirements. If we get the waiver, this might be stretched over five years.

We looked at the total expenditures from HMS401, Hawaii's Medicaid Program, over the past 10 fiscal years as reported in the variance reports. Using the number of enrollees listed in those reports, we found the average expenditure per enrollee to be $6,762.47. Applying that average to the projected number of persons disenrolled, we believe the fiscal impact to be between $439.5 to $574.8 million over the next three to five years.

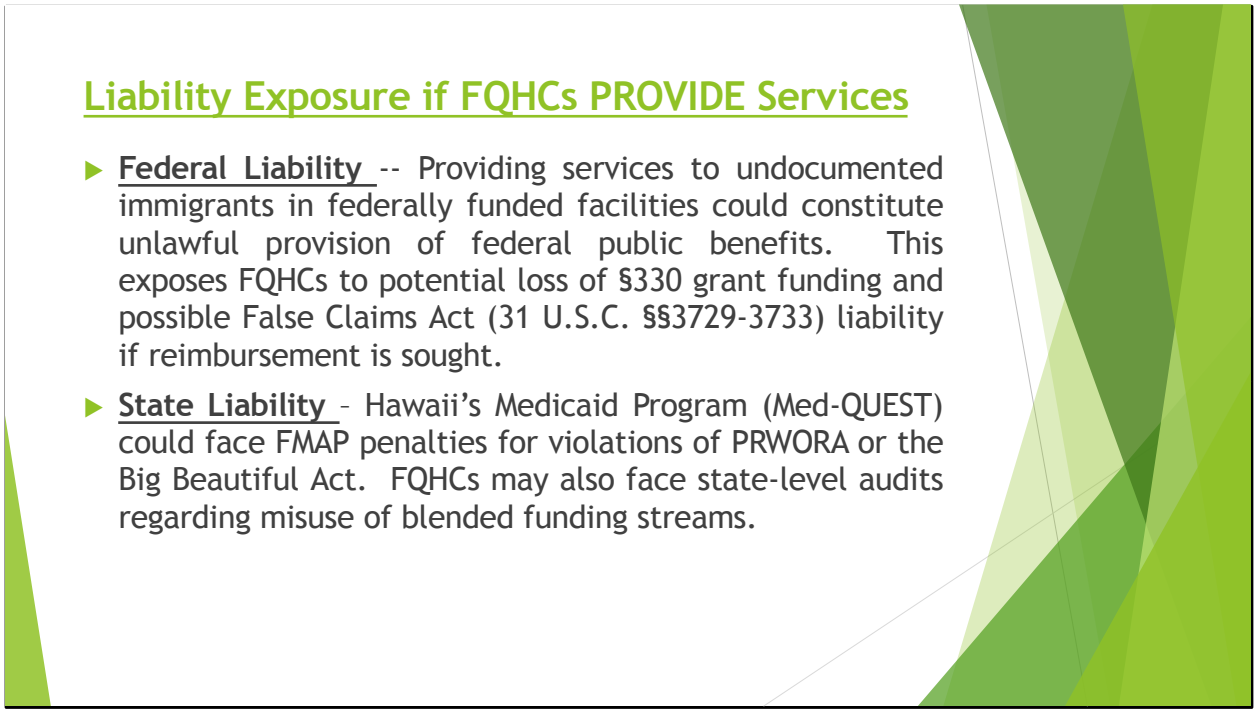
II. IMPACTS ON HAWAII'S FQHCS

Keeping all of this in mind, I'd like to now share how we think this will impact FQHCs and the Social Safety Net.



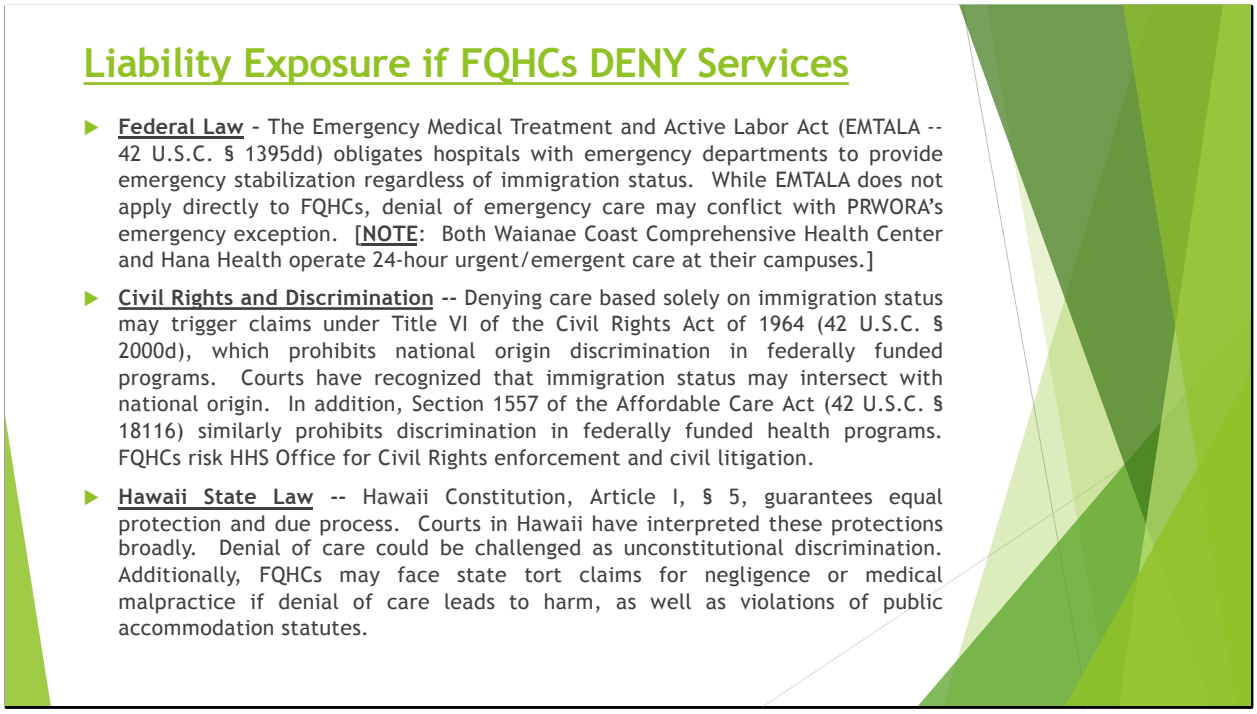
In a nutshell, Medicaid and most HHS funds cannot be used for undocumented immigrants. Yet, FQHCs must still serve all patients regardless of immigration status. This will result in a cost shift to state and local governments, our sliding fee program, and donations. Because of this, there is a need for new funding mechanisms and policy action to protect and preserve the safety net.

During our preliminary research, if FQHCs continue to provide the same level of services to undocumented immigrants without Medicaid reimbursement, FQHCs would have to rely on our 330 grant funds to cover this shortfall. Based on current grant funds available, those funds will be exhausted within two to three months.



FQHCs are in a no-win situation. If an FQHCs PROVIDES service to an undocumented immigrant at their respective campuses, that FQHC could be subject to federal liability for the unlawful provision of federal public benefits, and be exposed to the potential loss of §330 grant funding and possible False Claims Act liability if reimbursement is sought.

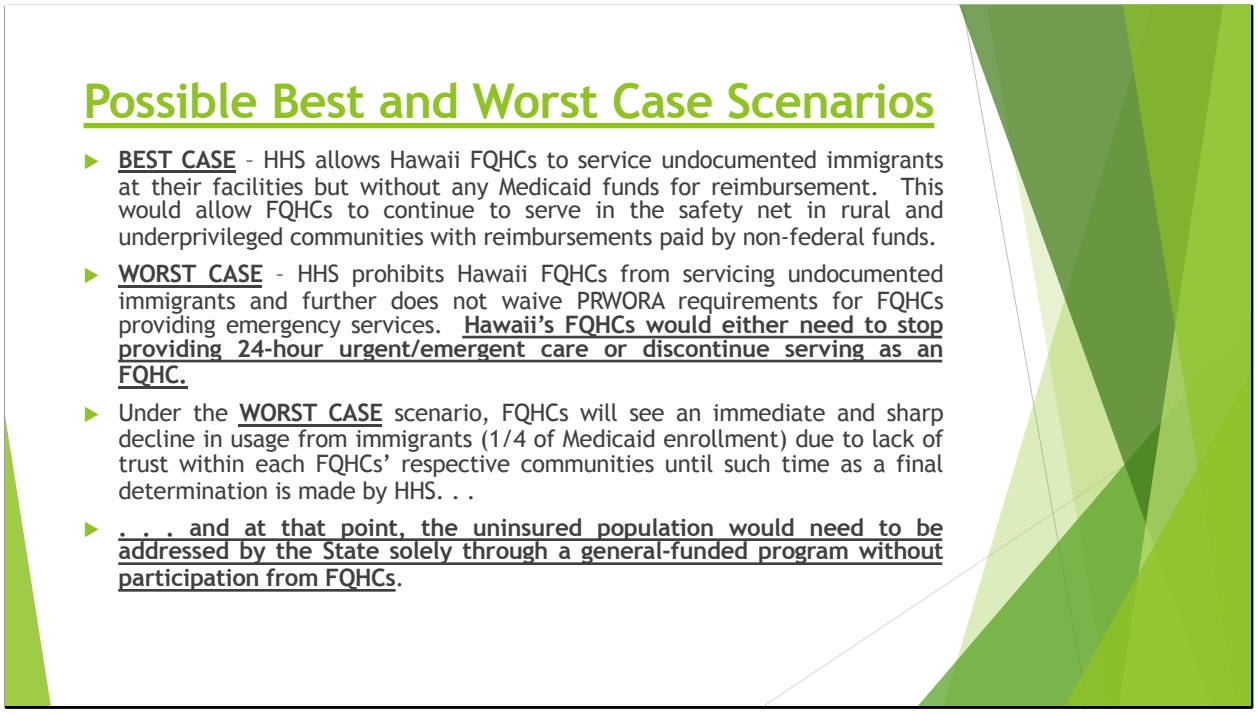
MedQUEST could face FMAP penalties for violations of PRWORA and the Big Beautiful Act, and the FQHC might also face state-level audits regarding misuse of blended funding streams.



If FQHCs DENY services to undocumented immigrants, denial might violate the Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act, or EMTALA, which requires emergency stabilization regardless of immigration status. While this law applies directly to hospitals with emergency departments, both Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center and Hana Health provide 24-hour urgent/emergent care at their campuses.

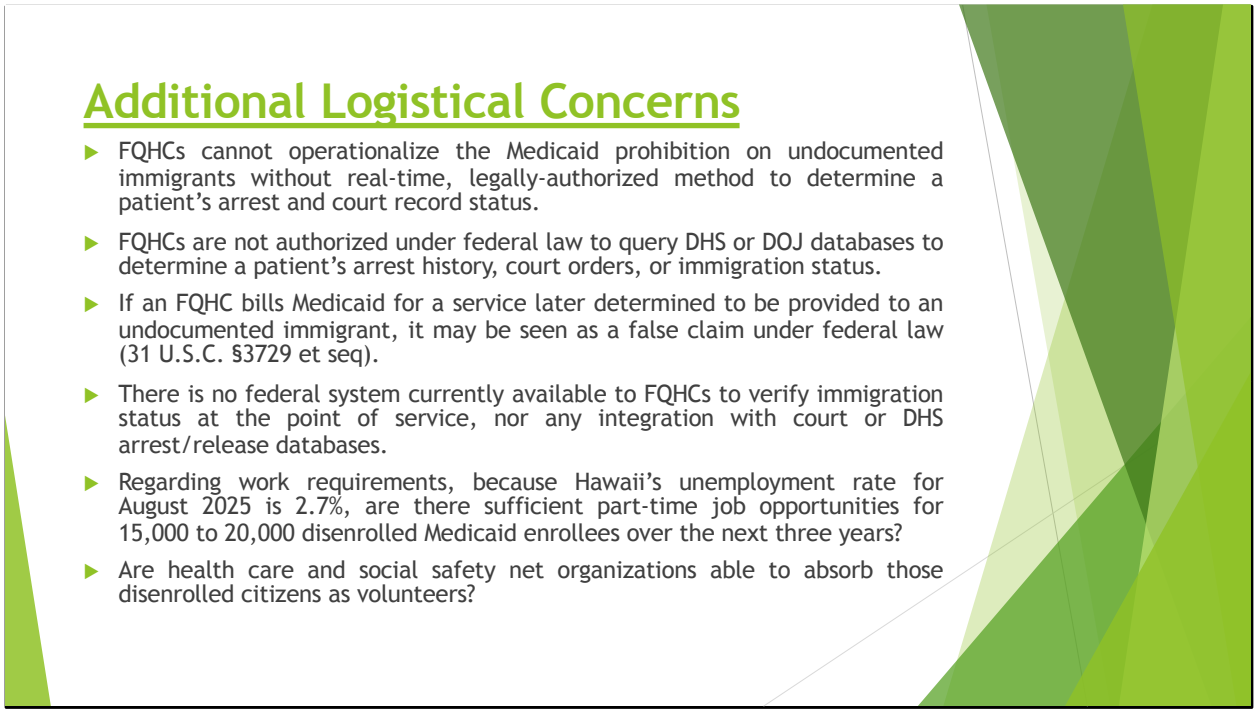
Denial of service based solely on immigration status may trigger claims under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits national origin discrimination in federally funded programs. Denial might also violate provisions of the Affordable Care Act, which prohibits discrimination in health programs.

Denial of service could trigger state action if the denial is construed as unconstitutional discrimination. Further, the FQHC could be in violation of Hawaii's public accommodations statutes.



Based on the information available, best-case and worst-case scenarios could be imagined. In the best-case scenario, HHS allows FQHCs to provide services to immigrants but not allow federal funds for reimbursement. Under this scenario, FQHCs would remain in the safety net, but would need to find non-federal funds to provide services to this cohort.

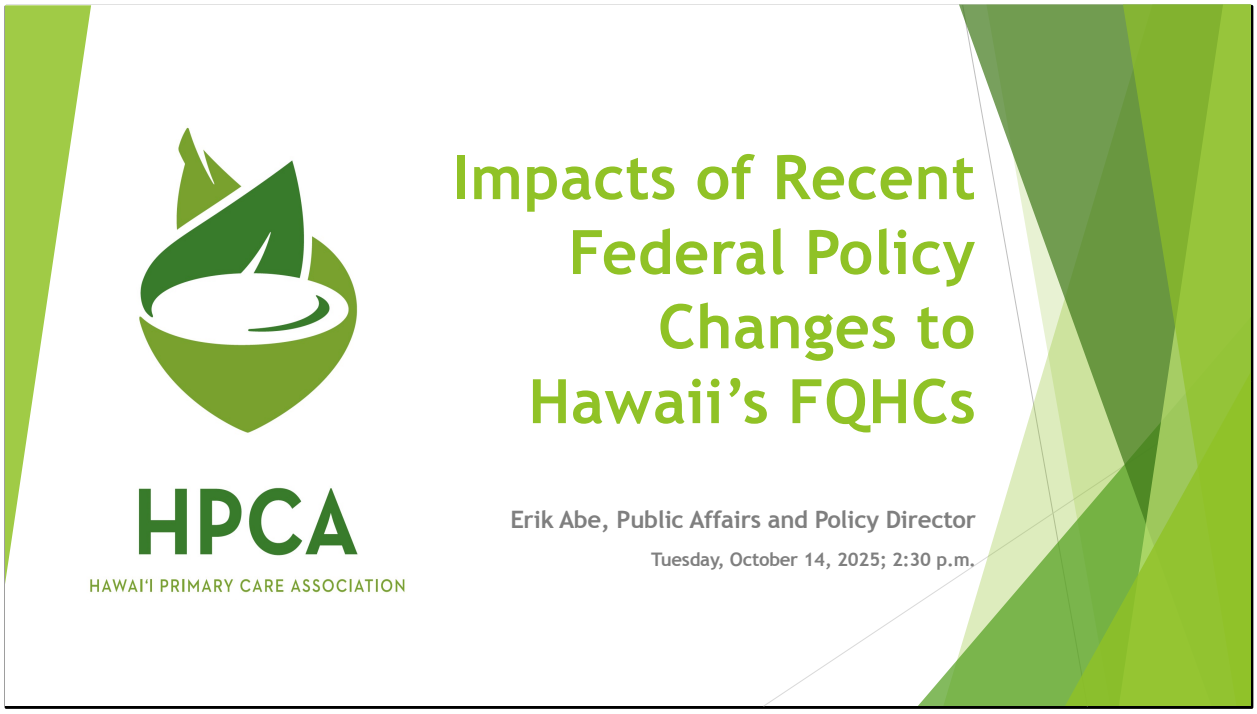
Under the worst-case scenario, HHS prohibits FQHCs from even using their facilities to provide services to undocumented immigrants. This scenario would effectively dislodge FQHCs from the safety net and leave it to the State to determine how the health care needs of this population will be served.



Lastly, FQHCs will need to be able to determine a patient's Medicaid eligibility before services can be provided. Because a person's immigration status can change from the time documentation is verified at application, without the means of determining eligibility before service is provided, there would be no way for the FQHC to ensure that a subsequent request for reimbursement is legitimate. It should be noted that a person's immigrant status can change based on a person's arrest and court record status prior to conviction. Currently as a public accommodation, FQHCs are prohibited from denying medical services to a person based on their arrest and court record status under State Law.

Also, given Hawaii's low unemployment rate, are there sufficient job opportunities available in rural, isolated communities to keep Hawaii's unemployed Medicaid enrollees with coverage?

The HPCA has had preliminary discussions with various nonprofit organizations to determine their capacity to recruit and engage volunteers in rural communities. Because many of these organizations have focused their grassroots activities in urban areas, it will likely take time for nonprofits to establish sufficient volunteer opportunities for Medicaid enrollees unable to gain part-time employment.



This concludes the presentation. I'd be happy to answer any questions.

Parents And Children Together
BUILDING THE RELATIONSHIPS THAT MATTER MOST

ParentsAndChildrenTogether.org

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1800 HD1 RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

TO: Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Moriwaki, & Members,
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
FROM: Trisha Kajimura, Vice-President of Strategy and External Affairs
DATE: March 30 at 10:00 AM

Parents and Children Together (PACT) supports HB 1800 HD1 Relating to the State Budget as a member of the Hawai'i True Cost Coalition – over 80 community-based non-profit organizations fighting to sustain essential social services for our communities.

Founded in 1968, PACT is a statewide community-based organization providing a wide array of innovative and educational social services to families in need. Assisting more than 18,000 people across the state annually, we help identify, address, and successfully resolve challenges through our 20 programs. Among our services are early education programs, domestic violence prevention and intervention programs, child abuse prevention and intervention programs, childhood sexual abuse supportive group services, child and adolescent behavioral health programs, sex trafficking intervention, poverty prevention and community building programs.

Our request is that True Cost increases for Department of Human Services provider contract be included in the budget, along with funding for steeply increased liability insurance costs related to providing Child Welfare Services. We also request consideration of a $79,000 per classroom increase for Pre-K Only Charter School classrooms (as detailed in HB 2399).

Service providers work under the most challenging circumstances and must have specific skills to both engage individuals and navigate complex systems. They must be supported by high-quality organizations that are adequately resourced and sustainable. Unfortunately, as non-profit providers contracted by the state to provide social services, we find ourselves caught in contracts that do not cover operating costs. Contract terms that were manageable 10 years ago are now putting our organization at risk. The growing gap and fundraising burden have become untenable, and we need your assistance with making change.

Increasing funding for essential programs that support and empower children, individuals and families as they navigate challenges in their lives is necessary to help meet their increasingly complex needs for safety and security. Now is the time to invest in services that help people in vulnerable situations attain safety, economic security and good health. The social safety net needs your robust support. Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Please contact me at (808) 847-3285 or tkajimura@pacthawaii.org if you have any questions.

ADDRESS 1300 Halona Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96817 OFFICE (808) 847-3285 FAX (808) 841-1485 EMAIL admin@pacthawaii.org

WEST HAWAII REGION

79-1019 Haukapila St. Kealakekua, HI 96750
phone: 808.322.4423fax: 808.322.4488 clayton.mcghanl@hhsc.org

TO: The Honorable Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
The Honorable Senator Sharon Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Senate Ways and Means Committee

FROM: Clayton McGhan, Regional Chief Executive Officer
Hawaii Health Systems, West Hawaii Region

SUBJECT: Support of HB1800 HD1 – Relating to the State Budget

DATE: March 30th, 2026

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) – West Hawaii Region, we submit this testimony in **strong support of HB1800 HD1,** which provides critical capital improvement project funding for the planning and early development of a West Hawai'i Medical Office Building which is also known as the Outpatient Care Center to serve West Hawai'i.

West Hawai'i is facing growing challenges in access to care as our population continues to increase, age, and shift northward. Kona Community Hospital is experiencing capacity constraints that contribute to longer wait times and limited access to specialty services. Many outpatient and specialty services remain dispersed across small and aging facilities that are no longer adequate to meet the health care needs of our region.

An independent analysis conducted by ECG Management Consultants underscores the urgency of this issue. The study found that approximately 40% of inpatient cases and 62% of outpatient procedures for West Hawai'i residents currently occur off-island or outside the region. Patients routinely experience wait times exceeding 30 to 60 days for critical specialties such as cardiology, pediatrics, and orthopedics. These access challenges are further compounded by a shortage of at least 25 physicians across key service areas. The Legislature has already demonstrated its commitment to addressing these challenges by funding the needs assessment and site assessment that informed both the planning and location of the proposed Outpatient Care Center.

HB1800 HD1 supports the development of an Outpatient Care Center on three to five acres of land generously donated by The Queen's Health Systems, adjacent to its new hospital campus. The proposed facility, totaling more than 50,000 square feet, will

consolidate outpatient and specialty services into a single, modern, and accessible location. This center will complement services at Kona Community Hospital while expanding capacity to meet current and future community needs.

Importantly, this project delivers near-term benefits while broader hospital planning continues. By expanding outpatient and specialty care capacity, the Outpatient Care Center will reduce wait times, improve the patient experience, and keep more care in West Hawai'i—minimizing the need for costly and disruptive off-island travel. The facility will also strengthen the local health care workforce by helping attract and retain physicians, nurses, and specialists, while creating new clinical and support jobs for island residents.

HHSC – West Hawaii Region's request for state funding to support planning, design, grading, and other preparatory work is a necessary and prudent step to move this project forward. Early investment now will strengthen West Hawai'i's health care infrastructure and ensure our community has timely, equitable access to the care they deserve.

For these reasons, we respectfully request your strong support of HB1800 HD1 and the continued inclusion of the executive budget request for the West Hawaii Medical Office Building. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this measure.

Date: March 30, 2026

To: Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Ways & Means

From: Early Childhood Action Strategy

Re: House Bill 1800 HD1, Relating to the State Budget

Early Childhood Action Strategy (ECAS) is a statewide cross-sector collaborative designed to improve the system of care for Hawai‘i’s youngest children and their families. ECAS partners work to align priorities for children prenatal to age eight, streamline services, maximize resources, and improve programs to support our youngest keiki.

ECAS supports House Bill 1800 HD1 and humbly requests the Committee’s consideration of the State Department of Human Services’ request for funds for contracted services for Child Protective Services due to the rising cost of liability insurance.

As noted in DHS’s prior testimony on this measure, child welfare and other human services providers in Hawaii continue to grapple with rising costs for general liability insurance. For child welfare services in particular, foster care is noted as a high-risk activity due to a variety of factors.

Without additional funding support, the rising cost of insurance and a lack of coverage options may ultimately impact providers’ ability to provide necessary and critical child welfare services.

For this reason, we urge the Committee to consider DHS’s request for additional funding.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

NATURAL ENERGY LABORATORY OF HAWAII AUTHORITY

An Authority of the State of Hawaii attached to the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism

Statement of
Laurence Sombardier, Deputy Director
For Riley M. Saito, Executive Director
Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority
before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Monday, March 30, 2026; 10:00 am
State Capitol, Conference Room 211 & Videoconference

in consideration of
HB 1800 HD1
RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET.

The Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority (NELHA) strongly supports HB 1800, HD1 which adjusts and requests operating and capital improvement appropriations and authorizations for Executive Branch agencies and programs for Fiscal Biennium 2025-27. We respectfully request favorable consideration of adjustments to NELHA's operating budget and capital improvement program (BED146) to ensure we can continue to fulfill our statutory mission and maintain critical public infrastructure.

Operating Requests

BED146 - $90,170 each year for Temporary Cultural Practitioner (Special Funds). This position will establish essential cultural stewardship capacity within NELHA. As HOST Park continues to attract ocean- and energy-related projects, culturally grounded planning and community engagement are increasingly important. The position will also play a key role in the modernization of NELHA's Master Plan and the update of its comprehensive Environmental

73-4460 Queen Kaahumanu Hwy., #101, Kailua-Kona, Hawaii USA 96740-2637
Phone: (808) 327-9585 Fax: (808) 327-9586 Email: nelha@nelha.org Website: nelha.hawaii.gov

Impact Statement (EIS), ensuring that both documents reflect current cultural practices, community priorities, and place-based knowledge. This capacity is critical to aligning project development with NELHA's statutory mission and supporting responsible, community-informed growth.

BED146 - $126,248 each year to restore the salary of unfunded NELHA Admin Assistant (Special Funds). This request includes a salary of $78,905 plus fringe benefits at 60% equaling $47,343, for a total request of $126,248. The position provides critical baseline administrative capacity to ensure effective NELHA operations. While currently occupied, the position was defunded during COVID and has never been formally restored. NELHA was able to temporarily maintain the position using salary savings from vacancies, but as the agency moves toward full staffing by the end of FY26, those temporary savings will no longer exist. Restoring this position now is necessary to ensure continuity of operations, maintain compliance and administrative functions.

CIP Requests

BED146 - $10,000,000 in GO Bonds FY27 for removal of six abandoned deep seawater pipelines. These pipelines, totaling approximately 22,500 linear feet, pose significant risks to public health, safety, and the environment. Their removal is necessary to mitigate hazards, protect coastal resources, and preserve the integrity of HOST Park's seawater infrastructure. The safety hazards include detached pipelines that create collision risks for vessels and potential harm to people, along with entanglement hazards for adjacent operational pipelines and the possibility of damaging nearby reef areas. While phasing the work may be feasible, each additional contractor mobilization is estimated to add approximately $1.6

million to the project cost, not including the effects of inflation if any portion of the removal is deferred.

BED146 - $1,675,000 in GO Bonds FY27 for Host Park Repairs and Improvements. The purpose is to mitigate known safety hazards and preserve essential assets. This request includes security fencing, offshore pipeline surveys and improvements, Research Campus electrical repairs and upgrades, and priority roadway repairs. These projects address documented risks to tenants, researchers, and the public, including deteriorating infrastructure, unsecured areas, and aging electrical systems. Failure to complete this work in a timely manner increases the likelihood of safety incidents, service disruptions, and damage to critical facilities. Deferred maintenance also drives up long-term costs as conditions worsen and emergency repairs become more likely. Delaying underwater surveys and maintenance may further jeopardize the reliable delivery of seawater to HOST Park clients. Overall, this request is essential to maintain safe operations, protect key assets, and ensure reliable service for tenants, researchers, and commercial partners.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB1800.

HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS
C O R P O R A T I O N
Quality Healthcare For All

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair

Monday, March 30, 2026
10:00 a.m.
Via Videoconference
Conference Room 308
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Testimony in Support of House Bill 1800 HD1
RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET.
Adjusts and requests appropriations for fiscal biennium 2025-2027 funding requirements for operations and capital improvement projects of Executive Branch agencies and programs. Effective 7/1/3000.

Edward N. Chu
President and Chief Executive Officer
Hawaii Health Systems Corporation

On behalf of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) Corporate Board of Directors, thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in **support of H.B. 1800 HD1** that adjusts and requests appropriations for fiscal biennium 2025-2027 funding requirements for operations and capital improvement projects of Executive Branch agencies and programs. Per the Committee on Ways and Means' request dated March 12, 2026, HHSC submitted a response on the impact of all changes to operating and capital budget request provisions in H.B.1800 HD1 on March 19, 2026.

Hawaii Health Systems Corporation (HHSC) plays a vital role in the healthcare delivery system for the State of Hawaii. In fiscal year 2025, HHSC's acute discharges for the four HHSC regions were 14,466, which accounts for approximately 13% of all acute care discharges in the State of Hawaii. In fiscal year 2025, HHSC's emergency department visits for the four HHSC regions were 91,900, representing approximately 19% of all emergency department visits statewide.

The impact of HHSC's facilities on the neighbor islands is even more impressive.

- For residents of the County of Hawaii, HHSC's facilities cared for nearly 73% of all acute care discharges and 80% of all emergency department visits.
- For residents of the County of Kauai, HHSC's facilities cared for approximately 22% of all acute care discharges and 42% of all emergency department visits.

Healthcare Landscape

Healthcare providers operate in a very complex, highly regulated, and rapidly changing environment with constant pressure from payors to deliver higher quality care at a lower cost. Development of health information technology, physician networks, quality improvement, and expertise in healthcare compliance rules and regulations and the revenue cycle is essential for successful hospital operations. Private hospitals have invested substantially in these areas while HHSC, with limited resources, is challenged to keep pace.

Historical Challenges

HHSC's facilities face challenges such as:

- Large percentage of Medicaid/QUEST and uninsured patients.
- Inadequate government and third-party reimbursements for healthcare services.
- Labor costs well above industry norms. HHSC's fringe benefit rate as a state agency is 64% as compared to the average private Hawaii hospital fringe benefit rate of 30%. Given HHSC's salaries expense, that difference alone represents $90 million of HHSC's need for general fund appropriations.
- Difficulty in attracting and retaining specialized health sector workforce in rural communities due to cost of living and lack of education and training opportunities.
- High cost contracted nursing and other clinical personnel to meet staffing shortages.
- Small scale operations which are costly to maintain.
- The need for capital investment in new medical technology.
- Aging facilities, with life and safety code issues and deferred maintenance, well beyond the average for similar facilities across the country.
- The impact of national changes to healthcare policy, federal mandates, and federal budget reductions, especially H.R.1.

Accomplishments

In spite of its many challenges, HHSC continues to provide high quality healthcare to the island communities it serves and is making progress in key areas. The following are some of the major accomplishments over the past year:

- Commitment to Providing Quality Care:
    - Honoka'a Hospital and Skilled Nursing, Leahi Hospital, Maluhia, and Samuel Mahelona Memorial Hospital achieved the highest possible overall five-star rating from Medicare's Nursing Home Compare website. Hilo Benioff Medical Center received an overall four-star rating.
    - Kauai Veterans Memorial Hospital achieved a five-star rating from Medicare's Hospital Compare website.

- Focus on Growing Revenue: Despite the challenges of staffing shortages and increased operational costs, HHSC managed to increase its operating revenues for

fiscal year 2025 approximately 10.1% from fiscal year 2024 and 22.5% from fiscal year 2023. Two primary drivers of this revenue growth were:

  - Achieving Equity with Hawaii Private Hospitals in Commercial Contract Negotiations: Utilizing the resources of a consulting firm and published payment rates available as a result of federal price transparency legislation, HHSC continued its negotiation of contracts for its commercial lines of business that will bring HHSC's reimbursement rates for healthcare services up to par with those of the private hospitals in the State of Hawaii. The increases in reimbursement rates have contributed to HHSC's revenue growth in fiscal year 2025, and will continue into the future as new contracts are negotiated.

  - Maximizing Federal Funding Opportunities: HHSC worked with the State of Hawaii MedQUEST Division to establish a public hospital uncompensated care pool which provides federal funds to partially subsidize HHSC's losses from providing care to Medicaid, MedQUEST, and uninsured patients. HHSC received nearly $70 million in funds in fiscal year 2025 from this program.

- Seeking Philanthropy: HHSC facilities and their associated foundations have continued to generate private funding through philanthropy. In fiscal year 2025, the East Hawaii Region received a pledge of $25 million to build an outpatient health center in Kea'au to improve access to medical services in the underserved Puna District. The Kauai Region recently received nearly $11 million from the Helmsley Charitable Trust to help expand and develop its facility's magnetic resonance imaging suite and expand simulation healthcare training.

- Regional Enhancement of Services: HHSC is making significant investments in upgrading medical equipment, expanding patient care capacity, and modernizing hospital facilities. The East Hawaii Region has started construction for a medical office building, intensive care unit expansion, and other building renovations. The Kauai Region has begun design work and construction for its emergency room renovations, inpatient psych/behavioral facility, major upgrades of imaging equipment, and a sizeable master campus plan.

- Workforce Recruitment: HHSC continues to see recruitment success through its continued commitment to its in-house workforce development programs (e.g. surgical technologist programs, nurse residency programs, specialized nursing certificate programs, certified nurse assistant program, the Hawaii Island Family Residency Program at Hilo Benioff Medical Center) and collaborations with the Healthcare Association of Hawaii and the Good Jobs Hawaii Program. Despite these efforts, HHSC continues to face significant clinical staffing shortages, requiring the supplementation of its staff with contracted nursing and other clinical personnel. This is due to the high cost of living, the scarcity of affordable and available housing, and the limited capacity of Hawaii's colleges and universities to accept and graduate nursing students and clinical technicians. In fiscal year 2025, HHSC spent nearly $36 million in contracted nursing and other clinical personnel as compared to $14.4 million in fiscal

year 2021. With the implementation of workforce programs and initiatives, HHSC's contract labor costs decreased by 16% compared to the previous fiscal year.

- System Product Standardization: As medical supply costs continue to rise, HHSC committed to a supply standardization program that is designed to minimize cost increases and result in cost savings. HHSC has already realized nearly $1 million in annual savings through pricing and rebates on medical/surgical commodities and clinical preference supplies that HHSC facilities purchase.

HHSC BUDGET REQUEST

HHSC-Regions Fiscal Year 2027 Supplemental Budget Request (HTH 210 & 212)

Please note that the funding amounts and requests under HTH 212 do not include the Oahu Region of HHSC, as Act 248, SLH 2022, established a new organization code for the HHSC-Oahu Region (HTH 215). As a result, HTH 212 (HHSC-Regions) is now comprised of the HHSC East Hawaii, West Hawaii, and Kauai Regions.

A summary of the amounts appropriated for fiscal years 2026 and 2027, the total funding requested by HHSC-Regions for fiscal year 2027, recommended by the Governor for fiscal year 2027, and included in the HD1 are summarized below.

HTH 210, 212: HHSC REGIONS, CORPORATE OFFICE					
Funding Type	**FY 2026**	**FY 2027**	**HHSC FY 2027 Request**	**HHSC FY 2027 Gov Dec**	**HHSC FY 2027 HB1800 HD1**
General Fund Appropriations for Operations (A Funds)	**203,307,303**	**197,534,303**	**197,534,303**	**197,534,303**	**197,534,303**
EPIC IT System (A Funds)	**13,230,000**	**2,282,000**	**2,282,000**	**2,282,000**	**2,282,000**
TOTAL GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS	**216,537,303**	**199,816,303**	**199,816,303**	**199,816,303**	**199,816,303**
CIP APPROPRIATIONS					
General Obligation Bonds	28,839,000	53,709,000	89,761,000	118,761,000	137,309,000
General Funds	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL CIP APPROPRIATIONS	**28,839,000**	**53,709,000**	**89,761,000**	**118,761,000**	**137,309,000**

Oahu Region Fiscal Year 2027 Supplemental Budget Request (HTH 215)

A summary of the amounts appropriated for fiscal years 2026 and 2027, the total funding requested by HHSC-Oahu Region for fiscal year 2027, recommended by the Governor for fiscal year 2027, and included in the HD1 are summarized below.

HTH 215: OAHU REGION					
Funding Type	**FY 2026**	**FY 2027**	**Oahu FY 2027 Request**	**Oahu FY 2027 Gov Dec**	**Oahu FY 2027 HB1800 HD1**
General Fund Appropriations for Operations (A Funds)	**8,000,000**	**14,000,000**	**14,000,000**	**14,000,000**	**14,000,000**
CIP APPROPRIATIONS					
General Obligation Bonds	5,600,000	5,110,000	5,110,000	6,821,745	5,110,000
General Funds	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL CIP APPROPRIATIONS	**5,600,000**	**5,110,000**	**5,110,000**	**6,821,745**	**5,110,000**

Kahuku Medical Center Fiscal Year 2027 Supplemental Budget Request (HTH 211)

A summary of the amounts appropriated for fiscal years 2026 and 2027, the total funding requested by Kahuku Medical Center for fiscal year 2027, recommended by the Governor for fiscal year 2027, and included in the HD1 are summarized below.

HTH 211: KAHUKU MEDICAL CENTER					
Funding Type	**FY 2026**	**FY 2027**	**KMC FY 2027 Request**	**KMC FY 2027 Gov Dec**	**KMC FY 2027 HB1800 HD1**
General Fund Appropriations for Operations (A Funds)	**2,157,500**	**2,032,500**	**5,250,500**	**3,448,750**	**3,448,750**
CIP APPROPRIATIONS					
General Obligation Bonds	5,800,000	5,000,000	8,980,000	6,262,000	5,612,000
General Funds	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL CIP APPROPRIATIONS	**5,800,000**	**5,000,000**	**8,980,000**	**6,262,000**	**5,612,000**

CONCLUSION

Despite our progress in financial and operational performance as indicated under "Accomplishments" above, HHSC is unable to keep up with collective bargaining pay increases and future mandated increases in the fringe rate for pension and retiree health insurance costs (OPEB). Additionally, with the impacts to Medicare and Medicaid coverage and reimbursement and future potential effects on rising costs, HHSC will face the issue of increased need for general fund appropriations. HHSC strongly urges the Legislature to provide the general fund appropriation and capital improvement project appropriation levels that are being requested by HHSC so that our facilities can continue to serve those who depend on our services the most in our rural communities. In this effort, HHSC consistently evaluates its current operations to identify opportunities for improving efficiency and effectiveness across the system, ensuring the provision of accessible, high-quality services that address the healthcare needs of Hawaii's unique island communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify **in support** of this measure.

holomua
COLLABORATIVE

OUR MISSION
To support and advance public policies that make Hawai‘i affordable for all working families.

OUR VISION
Collaborative, sustainable, and evidence-based public policies that create a diverse and sustainable Hawai‘i economy, an abundance of quality job opportunities, and a future where all working families living in Hawai‘i can thrive.

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Micah Kāne
Brandon Kurisu
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Brad Nicolai
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ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Josh Feldman
Brittany Heyd
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Ed Schultz

Josh Wisch
President & Executive Director

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Committee: **Senate Committee on Ways and Means**
Bill Number: **HB 1800 HD1, Relating to the State Budget**
Hearing Date and Time: **March 30, 2026, 10:00am (Room 211)**
Re: **Testimony of Holomua Collaborative in support**

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee:

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of HB1800 HD1. In particular, Holomua Collaborative writes **in support of program appropriation item no. K-39.1, which appropriates $326,882 for 2.0 FTE positions for the State Building Code Council (SBCC)**.

Hawai‘i remains in a severe housing crisis. Skyrocketing home prices leave many local families struggling to secure safe, attainable places to live. The median single family home price in Hawai‘i now exceeds $1,000,000, while the median for a condominium is nearly $650,000, creating an impossible barrier for most residents. As a result, many local families are being forced to leave in search of more affordable options elsewhere. Between July 2024 and July 2025, an average of 11 people left Hawai‘i *each day*.[1] More Native Hawaiians now live outside Hawai‘i than within it, representing a staggering loss of our culture, traditions, and the very essence of what makes Hawai‘i home.

In October 2025, a survey[2] on the day-to-day financial experience of local workers suggested that this crisis continues to reach alarming levels. When nearly 3,200 local workers were asked if they might need to move to a less expensive state, only 25 percent answered a definitive “no”, which is a decrease from 31 percent in 2024. Meanwhile, 75 percent said “yes” or were “unsure”, representing an increase from 69 percent in 2024. Additionally, more than half of respondents cited housing costs as the primary driver of their high cost of living. A notable driver in the increased cost of housing is the frequent and unpredictable code changes, which results in moving targets for builders, and delays and increased costs that are ultimately passed down to local residents and homebuyers.

[1] U.S. Census Bureau, Population Division Estimates, released January 2026; and calculations by the Hawai‘i State Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism, Hawai‘i State Data Center. https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/census/popestimate/2025/state-pop/2025_daily_est_state.pdf

[2] 2025 Hawai‘i Affordability Survey - https://holomuacollective.org/survey-25/#3

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COLLABORATIVE

A significant yet fixable driver of high housing costs is the frequent and unpredictable nature of code changes and the burdens placed on the SBCC to review and implement these changes. The SBCC, established pursuant to section 107-22, Hawai‘i Revised Statutes, consists of 12 voting members and 1 ex officio member who are not compensated for their work and often serve in this role in addition to full-time jobs. It is essentially a volunteer-run council. This group is tasked with establishing and maintaining safe statewide building codes, including the continual review, editing, amendment, and adoption of the complex and highly technical documents that comprise the seven codes under the SBCC's jurisdiction. In many instances, the numerous and complex duties assigned to this group of volunteers have resulted in missed statutory deadlines, which in turn create uncertainty and increase costs for home builders and businesses alike.

Section 107-23, Hawai‘i Revised Statutes, requires the appointment of an Executive Director and Executive Assistant to the SBCC. ***Despite this requirement, neither position has been filled since the SBCC was established in 2007***. Funding and staffing the SBCC will provide the support necessary to assist this volunteer body in preparing timely and efficient code updates, reducing housing and commercial development costs, and providing greater predictability for builders.

We must reform the systems that make building in Hawai‘i unnecessarily expensive. By funding and staffing the SBCC, we can help ensure that more local families can afford to remain in Hawai‘i.

We respectfully urge the Committee to include this budget item in HB1800 HD1. Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Matthew Prellberg
Policy and Communications Director

Marine and Coastal Zone Advocacy Council
Ke Kahu O Na Kumu Wai

MACZAC

MACZAC Members:

Hawai'i Island
Sylvia Yanagiasko-Vice Chair
Robert Nishimoto

Kaua'i
Taryn Dizon

Lāna'i
Will Sankey

Maui
Donna Brown
Rich Brunner
Denver Coon

Moloka'i
Vacant

O'ahu
Scott Sullivan-Chair
Kimbal Thompson
Jim Nicolow

February 6, 2026

On behalf of the Marine and Coastal Zone Advocacy Council (MACZAC), we write to express our strong support for Green Fee Advisory Council's proposed projects and to offer MACZAC's recommendations regarding the allocation of Green Fee resources.

MACZAC was established to provide informed, stakeholder-driven guidance on the stewardship of Hawai'i's marine and coastal resources. The Council represents a diverse range of perspectives, all of whom share a common commitment to the long-term health, resilience, and accessibility of Hawai'i's marine and coastal environments. In this role, MACZAC brings community-grounded and practical insights that complement agency expertise and policy development.

MACZAC believes that Green Fee investments should prioritize restoration and adaptation to changing environmental and use conditions. The following projects further conservation and responsible management of Hawai'i's marine and coastal zones:

1. Green Fee Community Stewardship Program (ahupua'a restoration): Community-based ahupua'a restoration
2. Green Fee Community Stewardship Program (nearshore marine environments): Community co-management for coral reef resilience
3. Green Fee Community Stewardship Program (coastal): Support coastal ecosystem restoration to improve coastal resilience to storms, floods, and climate disasters
4. Green Fee Community Stewardship Program (muliwai): Restore wetlands, anchialine ponds, and riparian zones with community partners for flood control, habitat improvement, and coastal resilience
5. Green Fee Community Stewardship Program (fishponds): Restore fishponds statewide and revive traditional aquaculture production with community partners
6. Public-private Watershed Management, Statewide
7. Community-driven Marine Resources Resiliency Planning (Holomua Marine Initiative)

Marine and Coastal Zone Advocacy Council (MACZAC), Hawai'i Coastal Zone Management Program, Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, 235 S. Beretania Street, 6th Floor, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813. Mailing address: PO Box 2359, Honolulu, HI 96804, Phone: 808-587-2846 Fax: 808-587-2424, Email: dbedt.op.maczac@hawaii.gov, Web: www.maczac.org

8. Pilot Cesspool Conversions in Coral Hotspots
9. Loko I‘a Resilience
10. Watershed Coordination and Restoration for Reef Resilience

Collectively, these projects reflect a place-based approach to conservation that recognizes the connectivity between mauka and makai systems, the importance of community stewardship, and the need for long-term resilience. MACZAC appreciates the thoughtful and transparent approach taken by the Green Fee Advisory Council in developing and prioritizing these initiatives.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide these recommendations. We look forward to continuing to advance the responsible stewardship of Hawai‘i’s marine and coastal resources.

Sincerely,

Scott P. Sullivan

Scott Sullivan, Chair

Marine and Coastal Zone Advocacy Council

Marine and Coastal Zone Advocacy Council (MACZAC), Hawai‘i Coastal Zone Management Program, Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, 235 S. Beretania Street, 6th Floor, Honolulu, Hawai‘i 96813. Mailing address: PO Box 2359, Honolulu, HI 96804, Phone: 808-587-2846 Fax: 808-587-2424, Email: dbedt.op.maczac@hawaii.gov, Web: www.maczac.org

BUILDBETTER.LIVEBETTER.®

March 30, 2026

Committee:	**Senate Committee on Ways and Means**
Bill Number:	**HB1800 HD1, Relating to the State Budget**
Hearing Date and Time:	**March 30, 2026, 10:00am**
Re:	**Testimony of HPM Building Supply in Support**

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Committee Members:

I would like to submit this testimony in support of HB1800 HD1, Relating to the State Budget, specifically regarding program appropriation item no. K-39A, which provides $326,882 for 2.0 FTE positions for the State Building Code Council (SBCC). This funding would support the Council's timely adoption and updates of building codes, helping provide greater predictability and coordination across Hawai'i's construction industry.

HPM Building Supply is a 100% employee-owned company that has served Hawai'i's construction and home improvement industry for more than 100 years. With locations statewide, we support homeowners, contractors, and design professionals through building supplies, design services, and local manufacturing, and we are committed to strengthening homes and communities across Hawai'i.

From our vantage point in the construction supply chain, we see how "moving targets" in building codes create waste and inefficiency. When code interpretations vary or adoptions are delayed, it impacts everyone from the architect to the homeowner. By finally funding the Executive Director and Assistant roles—which have been unfilled for nearly two decades—the State can provide the construction industry with the predictability it needs to operate efficiently. Consistent statewide standards help us keep costs down for the contractors and families we serve every day.

Sincerely,

Jason Fujimoto
Chairman & CEO

HPM BUILDING SUPPLY

(808) 966-5466 • FAX (808) 966-7564
16-166 MELEKAHIWA STREET • KEAAU, HAWAII 96749

HPMHAWAII.COM

TITLE GUARANTY
HAWAII

March 30, 2026

Testimony in support of HB 1800 HD1, Relating to the State Budget

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee,

We write in strong support of HB 1800 HD1, Relating to the State Budget, and the budget item to fully fund and staff the State Building Code Council which will improve the timeliness of code adoption and updates.

Title Guaranty of Hawai‘i is the oldest and largest title company in the state. We have been owned and operated by a kama‘āina family since 1896, and we are proud to employ over 250 residents across our branches statewide. As an organization that has worked for over a century to connect local families with housing, we see firsthand how regulatory uncertainty and inefficiency add time, cost, and complexity to housing projects, ultimately borne by residents.

In our work, we see how the lack of coordination in code adoption creates friction in the housing market. The SBCC’s duties are technical and voluminous; expecting uncompensated volunteers to manage this workload without an Executive Director or Assistant has historically led to delays. These delays are not just paperwork issues—they are cost drivers that are ultimately borne by Hawai‘i’s residents. Strengthening the SBCC’s capacity will lead to more timely reviews and a more predictable housing market for the families we serve.

Sincerely,

Mike B. Pietsch
President and Chief Operating Officer
Title Guaranty of Hawai‘i

M^NA up

Statement of
Meli James and Brittany Heyd
Cofounders
Mana Up

HB 1800 HD1, Relating to the State Budget

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee,

As owners of a small business, we write in support of funding staff positions for the State Building Code Council (SBCC) through a line item in HB 1800 HD1, Relating to the State Budget.

Mana Up is a statewide initiative that supports Hawai‘i-based entrepreneurs with the resources and tools they need to grow locally and scale globally. The founders and small business owners we work with are deeply invested in Hawai‘i. They create local jobs, reinvest in their communities, and contribute to a diversified and resilient local economy. For these entrepreneurs to stay and thrive in Hawai‘i, however, they need stable, attainable housing, particularly in the early stages of building their businesses.

Many of the entrepreneurs we work with are in the early stages of building their businesses and struggle to find stable housing. The current building code process is complex, and when implemented entirely by volunteers, the production of new housing units slows. By staffing the SBCC, the State can move toward a professionalized system that values efficiency while maintaining safety. Reducing construction costs is a practical way to help our local entrepreneurs stay and thrive in the islands. Mana Up is happy to support this appropriation.

Sincerely,

Meli James | Cofounder, Mana Up
Brittany Heyd | Cofounder, Mana Up

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(808) 354-1238
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Honolulu, HI 96817
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HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/27/2026 11:31:51 AM
Testimony for WAM on 3/30/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kumiko Hasegawa Mattison	Testifying for ?Aina Ho?ola Initiative	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the WAM Committee,

My name is Kumiko Mattison, representing ʻĀina Hoʻōla Initiative in Hilo and I strongly support HB 1800 and the full Green Fee project portfolio. Hawaiʻi faces urgent climate challenges—wildfires, coastal erosion, invasive species, coral reef decline, and water insecurity—that threaten our safety, environment, and economy.

The Council carefully reviewed over 500 public ideas and 100 proposals, selecting 75 ready-to-deliver projects that work together to protect our communities, ecosystems, and cultural resources. Funding the full portfolio will provide immediate, measurable action, empower community stewardship groups, and strengthen Hawaiʻi's resilience before disasters strike.

Please pass HB 1800 with full funding for the Green Fee project portfolio. Every project has been chosen for its high impact, cost-effectiveness, and complementary benefits—together, they are stronger than the sum of their parts.

Mahalo nui loa,

Kumiko Mattison

March 27, 2026

RE: Support for HB 1800 in support of the Green Fee project portfolio

Submitted by: Mariane Uehara, Director of Fundraising and Strategic Communications, Re-use Hawai‘i

To: Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair; Senator Sharon Moriwaki, Vice Chair; Members of the WAM Committee

Aloha Senators,

As Hawai‘i faces increasing climate-driven disasters, Re-use Hawai‘i helps communities prepare and recover by keeping materials in use and strengthening local capacity.

We strongly support the full Green Fee project portfolio. Our organization works to divert usable building materials from landfills, support sustainable rebuilding after storms, and train a local workforce in green jobs. These efforts reduce disaster waste, lower rebuilding costs, and strengthen communities while protecting Hawai‘i’s ‘āina.

Funding the Green Fee portfolio empowers community-based initiatives like ours to continue scaling impact, provide workforce training, and deliver solutions that build resilience against climate hazards. Every dollar invested multiplies through local partnerships and on-the-ground action. We urge the WAM Committee to fund the full Green Fee portfolio to protect Hawai‘i’s communities, resources, and future.

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

Mariane Uehara
Director of Fundraising and Strategic Communications

Kamehameha Schools®

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Time: 10:00 a.m.
Date: Monday, March 30, 2026
Where: Conference Room 211

TESTIMONY
By Jack Wong, Chief Executive Officer
Kamehameha Schools

RE: **HB 1800, HD1, Relating to the State Budget**

Aloha e ka Luna Hoʻomalu Dela Cruz, ka Hope Luna Hoʻomalu Moriwaki a me nā lālā o ke Kōmike.

Mahalo for this opportunity to provide **comments on HB 1800, HD1**. Our testimony focuses on and supports the restoration and long-term recovery of Lahaina.

Lahaina holds deep cultural, historical, and community significance for the people of Hawaiʻi.

As an educational institution committed to the success of Hawaiʻi's students and communities, we support thoughtful investments that contribute to the rebuilding of Lahaina in ways that strengthen both education and community resilience. Recovery efforts that restore educational spaces, cultural learning environments, and community infrastructure are essential to ensuring that students and families can continue to learn, grow, and thrive.

Equally important is the careful stewardship and restoration of the land and surrounding environment. Efforts that support the restoration of ʻāina and the protection of Lahaina's cultural and historical legacy will help create opportunities for place-based learning and reinforce the strong connection between community, culture, and education.

Rebuilding Lahaina is not only about restoring structures, but about restoring the community foundations that support learning, cultural practice, and the well-being of future generations. We support the State's continued commitment to recovery efforts that uplift residents and respect the significance of Lahaina.

Mahalo for your leadership and continued commitment to the recovery and future of Lahaina.

Founded in 1887 through the Will of Ke Aliʻi Bernice Pauahi Pākī Bishop, Ke Kula ʻo Kamehameha is a private, educational, charitable trust committed to empowering Native Hawaiians in perpetuity by improving the well-being of our people through education. We envision our haumāna, strong in E Ola!, grounded in Hawaiian and Christian values, succeeding in post-secondary education and contributing through ʻōiwi leadership to a thriving and self-determined lāhui.

March 27, 2026

Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Hawai‘i State Legislature
Via Electronic Transmission

Re: Testimony in **SUPPORT** of HB1800 HD1, Relating to the State Budget **with a proposed amendment to fund low interest loans for cesspool conversions.**
Hearing: Monday, March 30th at 10:00am via Videoconferencing

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Morwaki, and Members of the Committee,

Wastewater Alternatives & Innovations (WAI) **supports** HB1800 and **the full Green Fee project portfolio**. This bill would provide financial support for projects that will help address current and emerging environmental challenges faced by Hawai'i's communities.

The Green Fee Council reviewed more than 100 formal proposals from state agencies and carefully selected the best projects to address both immediate and long-term environmental risks in a strategic and integrated manner. Many of Hawai‘i’s most effective stewardship efforts are led by community-based organizations. Stable Green Fee funding will support non-profit organizations responding to crises like the recent floods, while also building capacity, providing local workforce training, and ensuring continuity of impactful projects.

Disastrous effects from the recent Kona storm flooding and resulting water pollution emphasize the need to fund environmental solutions to ongoing climate change-related crises. In areas like Wahiawa, Waialua and Haleiwa, floodwaters were contaminated with sewage pollution from overflowing cesspools. **As an amendment, WAI proposes to add funds for low-interest loans to help low-moderate income homeowners convert their cesspools.** Because HB1618 did not proceed with providing low-interest loans for low-income homeowners cesspool conversion, WAI respectfully recommends to the legislature to include funding towards loans in HB1800 SD1.

Cesspools cause threats to health and environment which are exacerbated due to climate change crises like the Kona storms. WAI is an environmental non-profit dedicated to protecting our water resources. We support innovative, affordable, and environmentally-friendly solutions and projects. For these reasons, WAI respectfully urges the Legislature to support HB1800 and commends its continued leadership in advancing solutions to Hawai‘i’s most pressing environmental challenges.

Aloha,

Stuart Coleman, *Jessica Kai Paisley,*

Stuart H. Coleman, Executive Director Jessica Kai Paisley, Program & Legal Specialist

WAI: Wastewater Alternatives & Innovations * 2927 Hibiscus Pl.* Honolulu, HI 96815 808-381-6220 *
info@waicleanwater.org * www.WaiCleanWater.org

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TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND'S TESTIMONY REGARDING HB1800
Senate Committees on Ways & Means
Monday, March 30, 2026, 10:00 a.m., Conf. Rm. 11

Aloha e Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee,

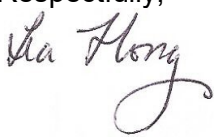
Trust for Public Land (TPL) strongly supports full funding of the Governor's Green Fee Advisory Councilʻs ("the Council's") recommendations, rather than a piecemeal approach. Trust for Public Land is a member of the Care for ʻĀina Now (CAN) Coalition and I served as a member of the Council.

Over 600 departmental and public proposals totaling over $2 billion were submitted for consideration to the Governor's Green Fee Advisory Council ("the Council") in 2025. The volunteer and unpaid Council met through September 2025-December 2025, devoting by some estimates well over 100 hours per member in all-day meetings and in the review and ranking of proposals. The Council researched and adopted robust ranking rubric based on the best practices of similar funding programs. At least three members of the Council reviewed and ranked each project. The projects were then divided into three statutory funding buckets: Environmental Stewardship, Climate and Hazard Resilience, and Sustainable Tourism. Those projects receiving the highest rankings were recommended for funding. The process and recommendations are described in detail at https://greenfeehawaii.org/funding-recommendations.

Studies have estimated a $500-$600 million annual investment gap in climate resilient and nature based solutions needed to prevent the tragedies of Lahaina and recent flooding. TPL urges the Legislature to wake wise long-term investments in needed prevention now.

I apologize that I will not be able to attend this hearing in person or by Zoom as I have a pre-existing conflict that cannot be moved.

Respectfully,



Lea Hong
Associate Vice President & Hawaiʻi State Director
Edmund C. Olson Trust Fellow

CATHOLIC CHARITIES HAWAIʻI

SUPPORT FOR HB 1800 HD1: RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

TO: Senate Committee on Ways and Means
FROM: Betty Lou Larson, Legislative Liaison, Catholic Charities Hawaiʻi
Hearing: Wednesday, 4/1/26; 10:00 AM; CR 211 & Videoconference

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Committee on Ways and Means,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **strong support of HB 1800 HD1**, which adjusts and requests appropriations for fiscal biennium 2025-2027 for operations and capital improvement projects of Executive Branch agencies and programs.

Catholic Charities Hawaiʻi is a tax-exempt CBO serving more than 40,000 individuals statewide each year. For 78 years, we have provided essential services to children, families, older adults, immigrants, and individuals experiencing homelessness. We also proudly serve as a member of the Hawaiʻi True Cost Coalition (TCC), representing more than 80 nonprofit organizations serving over 500,000 people statewide.

We strongly support increased funding to the Department of Human Services and the Judiciary to increase contract rates for Community Based Organizations. These contracts have not kept pace with actual service delivery costs**.** According to the True Cost Coalition:

- Over 90% of nonprofits report contract budgets that fall short of actual operating costs.
- In 2025, 70% of nonprofit respondents reported needing more than $100,000 annually to close the gap between contract funding and actual costs.
- Program costs have increased 40%, while nonprofit contract funding has only seen minimal or no increases.

When contract rates do not reflect true costs, nonprofit partners are forced to: reduce administrative and program capacity; cut positions or reduce salaries; limit the number of people served; restrict geographic coverage or—most concerning—consider declining or ending contracts for essential programs.

We strongly support funding for the State Office on Homelessness and Housing Solutions for the Kauhale, Honu and Medical Respite programs. A top priority of the State is ending homelessness. These are critical programs that can rapidly create the housing and services needed to move homeless individuals and families off the streets.

We strongly support $300,000 in GIA funding to the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center to provide education, recreation, and social services that enable seniors to remain independent in our community

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of these items in HB 1800 HD1. **With rising costs and federal funding uncertainties, these programs are critical to maintain essential services to the most vulnerable populations across our state.**

If you have any questions, please contact our Vice President of Mission, Shellie Niles, at 808-527-4813.

TESTIMONY from Kupu on HB1800: Relating To The State Budget

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Keone Nakoa, and I am the Vice President of External Affairs at Kupu. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of Kupu in strong support of HB1800, with comments to emphasize **the importance of retaining the Governor's requests for the Green Fee funding**.

Kupu is a statewide nonprofit organization based here in Hawai'i that focuses on creating programs that empower youth and young adults with opportunities to learn, serve, and work in ways that restore environments and communities. Our programs seek to build a local workforce that is prepared to address Hawai'i's unique challenges, and create community-specific solutions. Over the last 5 years Kupu has produced an estimated $115 million of economic benefit; and for every dollar in funding it receives, Kupu generates ~$6.25 in operating capacity. Impact results like these are easily understood and will help build trust and confidence in the new Green Fee mechanism.

As an organization that helps people transform their love for the environment into a professional career, the state legislature's bold action in bills like Act 96 last year and this inaugural slate of Green Fee projects included in HB1800 stand as a testament to the strong leadership role our islands can fill around the world.

We are immensely grateful to the many people and groups that were instrumental in helping to pass the Green Fee, including members of this committee. The historic legislation passed last year, Act 96, bears a clear promise to reinvest tourism generated revenue back in our 'āina to address stewardship, resilience, and sustainable tourism. These funds are incredibly timely, as we witness the impacts of climate change on our communities first hand. Floods like those that have occured throughout the pae 'āina last week make our environment more vulnerable by eliminating brush and canopy via downed trees, which allows invasive species to take root more easily. This increases our wildfire risk greatly and paves the way for even more severe future disasters.

We know that investing in prevention is fiscally responsible. National data shows that every dollar invested in disaster preparedness saves significantly more in avoided damages and recovery costs. Relying on reactive spending after disasters will only increase long-term costs for the State. There are already proven examples across Hawai'i where long-term

stewardship has improved resilience. Communities that invest in caring for their lands and waters, especially in alignment with traditional knowledge and practives, are seeing reduced impacts from major weather events and are better able to recover afterward. Expanding these efforts statewide requires sustained funding.

For example, one of the programs supported by the green fee would create climate resilience crews, which would create more direct pathways for experienced workers to come in and support recovery and clean up following a disaster, as well as work on priority state lands to mitigate risks between disaster responses. Other key programs included in the Governor's requests support expanding the impacts of youth conservation corps at sites throughout the State and growing on the success of the Nā Manu ʻElele partnership with DLNR and Kupu to educate tourists to be more thoughtful and consciencous guests as they experience our beautiful trails and coastal areas around the state.

For Act 96 to achieve its visionary goal, Green Fee revenues must support Act 96's three express priorities: environmental stewardship, climate and hazard resilience, and sustainable tourism. Passing the fee was an important act of leadership, but it is only the beginning. What will ultimately determine success is whether residents and visitors can see the positive outcomes these funds make possible. The slate of projects proposed by the Green Fee Advisory Council would support work across multiple state agencies in partnership with community organizations.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Keone Nakoa
Vice President of External Affairs, Kupu

Hawai'i Technology Development Corporation
521 Ala Moana Blvd, Ste 255 | 808–539–3806
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 | www.htdc.org

Written Statement of
Trung Lam, Executive Director

before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Wednesday, April 1, 2026
10:00 AM
Conference Room 211 & Videoconference

In consideration of
HB1800 HD1
RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee,

The Hawaii Technology Development Corporation (HTDC) support HB1800 HD1. This bill supports the position request at BED142 Director's Office for a Taxation Compliance Coordinator handling all department incentives including Section 235-110.9 Research and Development Tax Credit oversight with new funds. Furthermore, HB1800 HD1 includes $1M in funding for each of HTDC's core programs (Hawaii Small Business Innovation & Research, Manufacturing Assistance Program, and Accelerator Small Business Training Program).

This funding will allow HTDC to continue its important work in supporting the local tech ecosystem as we shift our focus to the space and ocean economy sectors. By prioritizing areas that Hawaii has a strategic advantage, and developing economic clusters state-wide, we can position Hawaii as a leader in innovation and impact in the Pacific.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of HB1800 HD1.

HAWAIʻI GREEN GROWTH
UN LOCAL2030 HUB

Mission: Hawaiʻi Green Growth is a trust-based network organization that drives collective impact through measurable concrete action, inspiring local and global communities to advance regenerative economic, social, and environmental goals.

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Hawaiʻi Green Growth
1601 East-West Road
Honolulu, HI 96848

March 27, 2026

Testimony in Support of HB 1800 HD1

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and distinguished members of the committee,

My name is Kalani L. Kaʻanāʻanā, CEO of Hawaiʻi Green Growth (HGG). I submit this testimony in support of HB 1800 HD1, and specifically to urge the Legislature to fully fund the Green Fee portfolio of climate resiliency projects.

Hawaiʻi Cannot Afford to Keep Paying for Inaction

In less than three years, Hawaiʻi has absorbed two multi-billion-dollar climate disasters. The 2023 Maui wildfires — the deadliest in modern American history — caused an estimated $5 billion or more in damages according to state and federal assessments, with full economic losses still being documented. This month, the "Kona Low" brought historic flooding, infrastructure failure, and widespread disruption across multiple islands. These are not anomalies. They are the new baseline. And the cost of reactive disaster response is compounding.

Every dollar we fail to invest in prevention and adaptation today will cost this State — and its taxpayers — many times more tomorrow. According to the National Institute of Building Sciences' *Natural Hazard Mitigation Saves* report, every $1 invested in hazard mitigation returns an average of $6 in avoided recovery costs — and up to $11 for certain hazard types. Hawaiʻi is now living proof of what the alternative looks like.

The Green Fee Portfolio Represents Exactly the Right Investment

The Green Fee was established precisely for this moment — to generate dedicated, sustainable funding for the land and water stewardship that makes our communities more resilient. The portfolio of projects and allocations before you is not speculative. It reflects the on-the-ground

strategies we know work: watershed restoration that slows floodwaters before they reach communities, coastal protection that buffers storm surge, and land management that reduces the risk of catastrophic wildfires.

These are proven interventions. Communities that invest in caring for their lands and waters recover faster when major events do occur. The Green Fee portfolio scales what works.

Investing in Resiliency Is Fiscal Responsibility

The State has mechanisms in place — competitive grants, procurement requirements, agency & legislative oversight — to ensure these funds are deployed with accountability and reach organizations doing critical, irreplaceable work on the ground.

Hawai‘i has just endured two multi-billion-dollar reminders of what deferred investment costs. Fully funding the Green Fee portfolio in HB 1800 HD1 is not an expenditure; it is an insurance policy, a jobs investment, and a commitment to the communities that cannot wait for the next disaster to prompt action.

I respectfully urge this committee to support full funding of the Green Fee climate resiliency portfolio in HB 1800 HD1.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,



Kalani L. Ka‘anā‘anā
Chief Executive Officer

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/28/2026 2:06:15 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Thomas Daubert	Testifying for Friends of Kauai Wildlife Refuges	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Friends of Kauai Wildlife Refuges supports this legislation and appreciates the impact it is intended to have across our State.

THE QUEEN'S HEALTH SYSTEMS

To: The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
The Honorable Sharon Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Members, Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Jason C. Chang, President & Chief Executive Officer, The Queen's Health Systems
Jacce S. Mikulanec, Director, Government Relations, The Queen's Health Systems

Date: April 1, 2026

Re: Support of HB1800 HD1 – Relating to the State Budget (Outpatient Care Center – HHSC)

The Queen's Health Systems (Queen's) is a nonprofit corporation that provides expanded health care capabilities to the people of Hawai'i and the Pacific Basin. Since the founding of the first Queen's hospital in 1859 by Queen Emma and King Kamehameha IV, it has been our mission to provide quality health care services in perpetuity for Native Hawaiians and all of the people of Hawai'i. Over the years, the organization has grown to four hospitals, and more than 10,000 affiliated physicians, caregivers, and dedicated medical staff statewide. As the preeminent health care system in Hawai'i, Queen's strives to provide superior patient care that is constantly advancing through education and research.

Queen's appreciates the opportunity to testify in **support** of HB1800 HD1, and humbly asks for your favorable consideration to support the $50 million dollar appropriation to the Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation for planning, design, and construction of a new outpatient care center in North Kona on the Island of Hawai'i. We are honored to be working alongside our colleagues on Hawai'i Island to bring to fruition a new, state-of-the-art medical campus to provide needed medical services to the Kona, and surrounding, communities.

In December of 2025, Queen's and HHSC signed an agreement to jointly develop an Outpatient Care Center in Kona that will house clinical services and office space, as well as ensure continuity of care for patients throughout the community. Under this collaboration, Queen's will donate approximately five acres of land to HHSC's West Hawaii Region as the future site of a 50,000-square-foot medical facility adjacent to the new hospital that Queen's plans to construct.

This effort represents a unique opportunity to expand health care access for a growing community through a shared investment between the state and Queen's. The new Center will provide a seamless transition between inpatient and outpatient care, while creating a one-stop hub for primary and specialty care services that will reduce wait and travel times for patients. The construction of the facility is expected to create jobs and, once completed, will enhance West Hawaii Region's ability to attract and retain providers at a time when the community is facing a critical physician shortage. Hawai'i Island patients have already begun seeing the benefit of our collaboration with HHSC, as Queen's surgeons are currently rotating at Kona Community Hospital.

We are grateful to the Legislature and Governor Josh Green for your support of this project. We look forward to deepening our relationship with the Kona community and Hawai‘i Island through this project.

Mahalo for allowing Queen’s to provide testimony in support of HB1800 HD1.

VALLEY ISLE RESORT

Dear Honorable Legislators,

On behalf of the Association of Apartment Owners (AOAO) of Valley Isle Resort and its Board of Directors, we write to express our strong support for HB 1800, with particular emphasis on its importance to coastal resiliency efforts in Kahana Bay and the broader West Maui region.

Valley Isle Resort sits directly along the Kahana Bay shoreline, where ongoing coastal erosion has become an urgent and visible threat to infrastructure, environmental health, and the safety of residents and visitors. Over the years, we have witnessed significant shoreline retreat, loss of sandy beach areas, and increasing vulnerability to storm surge and high-wave events.

HB 1800 represents a critical opportunity to advance meaningful solutions, including:

Sand nourishment to restore and maintain Kahana Bay's beaches

Shoreline stabilization measures to protect coastal infrastructure

Long-term planning and funding mechanisms to address chronic erosion

Coordinated state and local action to preserve West Maui's coastal ecosystems

These efforts are not only essential for protecting our resources, but also for safeguarding public access, supporting tourism, and preserving the natural beauty and cultural significance of West Maui's coastline.

Without timely intervention, erosion in Kahana Bay will continue to accelerate, placing additional strain on property owners, local businesses, and public resources. Proactive investment in coastal resiliency through HB 1800 will help mitigate these risks while promoting sustainable shoreline management practices.

The Board of Directors of Valley Isle Resort AOAO strongly believes that this legislation is a necessary step toward protecting our community and ensuring that future generations can continue to enjoy and benefit from West Maui's coastal environment.

We respectfully urge you to support HB 1800 and prioritize funding and implementation of Kahana Bay sand nourishment and shoreline stabilization initiatives.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to preserving Hawai‘i's coastlines and communities.

Sincerely,

Norb Wolszon Vice President / Secretary

On Behalf of the Board of Directors

Valley Isle Resort AOAO

Recycle Hawai'i

TESTIMONY RE: HB1800/Relating to the State Budget
IN OPPOSITION

TO: Senator Donavan Dela Cruz, Chair, Senator Sharon Moriwake, Vice Chair and Members of the Ways and Means Committee

As a nonprofit organization with a 33-year legacy of serving Hawaii residents and visitors through waste reduction initiatives we respectfully ask members of the committee to refrain from accepting *in toto* the Green Fee Advisory Council project portfolio included in the governor's budget and submitted to the legislature as mandated by Act 96.

We take no pleasure testifying in opposition to the supportive testimony you have received from numerous environmental groups, some of them relatively new and others with legacies equally impressive as our own. We also want to make clear that we are not opposed to the majority of the recommendations made by the GFAC. Our lack of experience when it comes to natural resource conservation leaves us unqualified to judge whether the projects listed are worthy of inclusion in the portfolio. At the same time, our unparalleled experience when it comes to waste management leaves us utterly qualified to speak against the egregious omission of any projects that would address the burdens placed on Hawaii's people and its environment due to the voluminous amounts of solid waste generated by the tourism industry. There is simply no excuse for this omission which, at this point, can only be remedied through an intervention by this committee.

The position we take based on a careful analysis of the process which led to the inclusion of inappropriate projects on the GFAC list is outlined below:

1) The GFAC relied on a misinterpretation of Act 96 language to misdirect 50% of the Sustainable Tourism bucket to projects that do not qualify as sustainable tourism initiatives. These unqualified projects include a total of $19.75M for sandy beach restorations and related improvements.

2) We wholeheartedly support the $7.62M line item for Community-Led Visitor Education and Stewardship Programs. At the same time we are compelled to point out that while this project aims to address impacts at what the GFAC calls "high-use sites," the highest use sites in the state are the toilets and trash cans used by every single tourist, every single day they are here.

3) At a time when communities across Hawaii face very real dangers due to the decrepit condition of wastewater treatment facilities, at a time when

communities bear the environmental injustices associated with overflowing landfills, the GFAC's failure to allocate funding to initiatives that would reduce waste generated by the tourism industry is utterly unacceptable.

4) We raise no objections to the recommendations made by the GFAC for the Environmental Stewardship or Climate Resilience and Hazard Mitigation buckets. We again emphasize our support for the Community Led Visitor Education and Stewardship Programs listed in the Sustainable Tourism category. We object to the decision that was made to prioritize the need for off-shore corporations to profit from adjacency to white sand beaches over the need to effectively reduce the greatest negative impacts tourism brings.

A bona fide assessment of tourism industry impacts would reveal that 100% of all visitors to Hawaii generate solid waste in the form of discarded packaging and human waste. The highest impact "sites" in the state are its toilets and trash cans, which every single tourist uses.

Similarly, when seeking to mitigate the impacts of tourism, the state must also look at ways to address the vast amounts of micro and nanoplastic pollution generated through the abrasion of aircraft and vehicle tires that every single tourist and tour operator relies on to get them here and move them about. These same vehicles put an extraordinary burden on our society and environment due to their need for fossil fuels. Adding the climate footprint and waste management burdens that come with importing goods to feed tourists, and considering GFAC's failure to recommend projects that support local food production, it becomes clear that council was neglectful across the board when it comes to addressing the industry's greatest impacts.

We foresee a time when Green Fees could justifiably be used to replenish sand, but that time is not now. Such projects are not a priority. Reducing the impacts caused by every single visitor who comes to Hawaii must be the priority. Using Green Fees to upgrade waste management infrastructure and transition to a sustainable materials management approach must take precedence.

We call on members of this committee to redirect the entirety of funds recommended for "beach nourishment" included in the governor's budget to community based, waste reduction initiatives instead. We are happy to meet with legislators to share guidelines for identifying worthy initiatives.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/29/2026 3:23:44 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Aaron Magee	Testifying for Global Preservation Initiative	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in support of H.B. 1800, with comments to emphasize the importance of including meaningful climate resiliency funding within the State Budget.

I'm the Executive Director of Global Preservation Initiative which leads restoration efforts at Mauliola, also known as Sand Island Island State Recreation Area, as well as Makapu'u Beach Park.

These public lands benefit from consistent community stewardship and are examples of successful partnerships between community organizations and government agencies, such as the Department of Land and Natural Resources and City and County of Honolulu.

Our work at these sites includes clearing invasive plants which helps prevent the spread of these species, reduces competition for resources with native plants, and prevents brush fire risk. Planting native plants to improve ground water recharge, reduce erosion and runoff, and improve native biodiversity. And removing litter and marine debris reduces risks to wildlife and beautifies our public spaces.

Our events have brought together 4,000+ community members to plant 720+ native plants, clear 76,000+ square feet of invasive plants, and remove 18,000+ pounds of trash. This work could be scaled with Green Fee funding and H.B. 1800 is the State's primary opportunity to make those investments. Without dedicated, meaningful funding in the budget, many of the strategies we know are effective will not be implemented at the scale needed.

We also know that investing in prevention is fiscally responsible. National data shows that every dollar invested in disaster preparedness saves significantly more in avoided damages and recovery costs. Continuing to rely on reactive spending after disasters will only increase long-term costs for the State.

The State also has established processes in place to ensure funds are distributed responsibly, including competitive grants, procurement requirements, and oversight through relevant agencies. This ensures that investments are transparent, accountable, and reach organizations doing critical work on the ground.

Ultimately, the choice is whether to invest now or pay more later. Including climate resiliency funding in H.B. 1800 is a practical and responsible step toward protecting Hawai‘i’s communities and reducing future costs.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Legislature to include meaningful climate resiliency funding in H.B. 1800.

March 29, 2026

Hawai'i State Legislature
Committee On Ways and Means

Re: Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1800, Relating to the State Budget

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and esteemed members of the committee,

The Boys & Girls Club of Hawaii (BGCH) is pleased to submit this testimony in strong support of HB 1800, relating to the State Budget. We applaud the Legislature for crafting a budget that strives to meet the needs of all residents, particularly those in marginalized communities.

As a proud member of the Hawaii True Cost Coalition and a community-based organization dedicated to serving Hawaii's youth—often in underserved areas—we understand that true equity requires dedicated investment.

Supporting Youth Through Community Investment

For 50 years, BGCH has provided safe spaces, academic support, and mentorship to tens of thousands of youth. However, the cost of providing these critical services has risen, and the need within our communities has grown. HB 1800 is a crucial opportunity to recognize the "true cost" of providing services that keep our communities safe, vibrant, and educated. Our commitment to youth from marginalized communities means we work with families facing immense economic pressure. By prioritizing funding for non-profit organizations that offer after-school programs, nutrition services, and mentorship, this budget directly supports:

- **Educational Equity:** Ensuring every child has a safe place to learn and grow after school.
- **Economic Stability:** Reducing the financial burden on working families for childcare and youth programs.
- **Safety and Well-being:** Providing positive alternatives and mentorship to prevent youth from falling through the cracks.

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Paddy Kauhane

A "True Cost" Approach

We support the Hawaii True Cost Coalition's advocacy for ensuring that state contracts and grants with non-profits adequately cover the full cost of service delivery, including fair compensation for workers. Investing in our staff is investing in the quality of care for our children.

Conclusion

HB 1800 is not just a budget document; it is a reflection of our state's values. By prioritizing the needs of marginalized youth and supporting the community organizations that serve them, we are building a more equitable Hawaii.
We urge this committee to pass HB 1800 and ensure robust investment in Hawaii's future.

Mahalo for your time, consideration, and dedication to our community.

Sincerely,
Paddy Kauhane
President & CEO
Boys and Girls Club of Hawaii
Email: pkauhane@bgch.com
Office: 808-949-4203

Hawai‘i Audubon Society
850 Richards St., Suite 505, Honolulu, HI 96813-4709
office@hiaudubon.org https://hiaudubon.org

Written Testimony in Support of Full Funding for the Green Fee Project Portfolio
HB 1800—Relating To the State Budget

To: Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Ways and Means Committee
From: Hawai‘i Audubon Society
Date: March 30, 2026

Aloha,

On behalf of the Hawai‘i Audubon Society (HAS), a statewide bird conservation organization founded in 1939, I express our strong support for the full Green Fee project portfolio as recommended by the Green Fee Advisory Council, and I urge the Legislature to appropriate these funds in their entirety through HB 1800.

Hawai‘i Audubon Society supports the complete portfolio as presented by the Council. While our specific review focused on the environmental stewardship components of the recommendations, we believe the portfolio functions best as a whole, and that its complementary projects collectively deliver the greatest benefit to Hawai‘i's communities, ecosystems, and economy.

The Council's environmental recommendations represent a critical investment in protecting the natural systems upon which Hawai‘i depends. Our islands are home to an extraordinary and disproportionate share of the nation's endangered species — most found nowhere else on Earth. The health of Hawai‘i's native ecosystems is inseparable from the resilience of its communities, the vitality of its visitor economy, and the cultural well-being of its people. Projects that restore native habitats, reduce invasive species pressure, and protect critical wildlife areas are not simply conservation priorities — they are foundational infrastructure for a sustainable Hawai‘i.

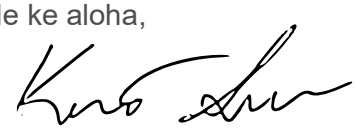
We recognize that the Council carefully evaluated and selected a portfolio of high-impact, ready-to-deliver projects that address environmental, climate resilience, and sustainable tourism needs in an integrated and cost-effective way. Funding only portions of this portfolio risks undermining the whole,

and we strongly encourage the Legislature to advance the Council's recommendations without reduction.

Hawai‘i Audubon Society respectfully urges the members of the Ways and Means Committee to support full appropriation of the Green Fee project portfolio. The birds, watersheds, reefs, and forests of Hawai‘i — and the communities that depend on them — are counting on action this session.

Mahalo for your service and your consideration of this important request.

Me ke aloha,



Keith Swindle
Executive Director
Hawai‘i Audubon Society
808-756-2980
exdir@hiaudubon.org

MĀLAMA PŪPŪKEA-WAIMEA
PROTECTING OUR OCEAN RESOURCES

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April 1, 2026
WAM Hearing, 10:00 AM, Conference Room 211
HB 1800 HD1 Relating to the State Budget – In Support

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the WAM Committee,

Mālama Pūpūkea-Waimea (MPW) is a Hawai'i non-profit organization founded on the North Shore of O'ahu in 2005, working to replenish and sustain the natural and cultural resources of the Pūpūkea and Waimea ahupua'a through community stewardship, education, and partnerships.

MPW strongly supports HB 1800 HD1.

We urge full funding of the Green Fee Advisory Council (GFAC) and Governor's Message 2 (GM2) recommendations. Many are shovel-ready or community-led efforts advancing stewardship and co-management, strengthening Hawai'i's climate leadership, and **sustaining residents' livelihoods and quality of life now and for future generations.**

MPW also supports HB1949 to establish a Green Fee Transparency & Accountability Program and Resiliency Impact Dashboard, ensuring strong oversight and clear statewide outcomes.

The attached flyer highlights **priority projects/programs proposed by GFAC and GM2 that would substantially assist our longstanding place-based stewardship efforts at the Pūpūkea MLCD and other community-led programs statewide, which includes existing partnerships with DAR and DOCARE**.

Mahalo for passing HB 1800 HD1 with the GFAC and GM2 recommendations.

Denise Antolini
President

Jacqueline Leinau
Executive Director

Green Fee Projects

Supported by

Mālama Pūpūkea-Waimea



Nā Manu ʻElele Makai Environmental Ambassador Program

Support community-led visitor education at high-traffic marine areas—including **Pūpūkea MLCD**, Hāʻena CBSFA, and ʻĀhihi-Kīnaʻu NAR—where local ambassadors provide on-site education about ecological and cultural significance and promote responsible visitor behavior.

LNR401/CA

Protecting Communities from Wave Energy and Storm Surge by Maintaining Natural Coral Reef Breakwaters

Strengthen the visitor ambassador program at high-use sites—including **Pūpūkea MLCD**, Hāʻena CBSFA, and ʻĀhihi-Kīnaʻu NAR—by funding a dedicated coordinator to oversee training, partnerships, and program management, ensuring consistent visitor education and community stewardship.

LNR401/CA





Fostering Effective Marine Resource Enforcement through DOCARE-Makai Watch Community Partnerships

Provide funding to support 20 community DOCARE Makai Watch groups statewide, strengthening community partnerships that help protect Hawaiʻi's marine resources while expanding local capacity for stewardship and resource protection. MPW's Makai Watch program for the **Pūpūkea MLCD** was the first on Oʻahu.

LNR405/HA

Ocean Monitoring for Coral Reefs, Nearshore Fisheries Resources & Water Quality to Support Effective Management

Fund coral reef, fisheries, and water quality monitoring through programs such as the Hawaiʻi Coral Reef Assessment and Monitoring Program (CRAMP) at priority sites including **Pūpūkea**, Maunalua, Hāʻena, Hanalei, and Kaʻanapali to support effective management, community co-management, and reef protection.

LNR401/CA





Makai Watch Program Expansion

Support Makai Watch volunteers who assist DOCARE by reporting illegal activities and educating visitors on fishing rules, marine life etiquette, and cultural stewardship, while providing community monitoring data to inform resource management and restoration.

LNR405/HA



Regulatory and Interpretive Signage Plan and Implementation

Update and standardize regulatory signage across Marine Managed Areas so visitors and residents clearly understand rules that protect marine resources, improving compliance, supporting enforcement, and safeguarding fragile ecosystems.

LNR401/CA

Green Fee Community Stewardship Program (nearshore marine): Community Co-management for Coral Reef Resilience

Support community-based marine management and ridge-to-reef initiatives that protect fisheries and coral reefs through outreach, monitoring, enforcement support, and restoration, strengthening coastal resilience and long-term stewardship.

LNR906/AA





Community-led Visitor Education and Stewardship Programs

Expand community-based visitor education and stewardship at high-use sites such as East Maui, Keaukaha, Kīholo Bay, and Kahalu‘u Bay by having local teams teach responsible practices and engage visitors and residents in habitat restoration and cultural stewardship to reduce impacts and strengthen community care.

BED11 6/DC

Destination-management Infrastructure Program

Invest in low-impact infrastructure at heavily visited sites such as Kīholo Bay, Ho‘opi‘i Falls, Waimea Valley, and key trail systems, including parking management, restrooms, and trail stabilization to reduce environmental impacts and improve visitor safety and experience.

LNR806





Nā Manu 'Elele Statewide Land Steward Program

Expand the Nā Manu ‘Elele Trail Steward Program to place trained local stewards at Hawai‘i’s most heavily used and culturally sensitive trails, where they educate visitors on responsible practices, improve safety, and help protect natural and cultural resources.

LNR804/DA

For more information on these Green Fee priorities, contact MPW at mpweducation@gmail.com.

Visit www.pupukeawaimea.org to learn more about our work!

P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759
Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921
e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

April 1, 2026

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

TESTIMONY ON HB 1800, HD1
RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

Conference Room 308 & Videoconference
10:00 AM

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Moriwake, and Members of the Committee:

I am Brian Miyamoto, Executive Director of the Hawaiʻi Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,800 farm family members statewide and serves as Hawaiʻi's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate, and advance the social, economic, and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

The Hawaiʻi Farm Bureau respectfully submits testimony in support of HB 1800, HD1, with a request for funding allocations that will support Hawaiʻi's agricultural industry.

Hawaii's agricultural industry faces increasing challenges, including high operational costs, labor shortages, and climate-related disruptions. Strategic investments in infrastructure, research, and economic support programs are essential to ensure the viability of local agriculture production, reduce import dependency, and enhance the state's overall food security.

HFB respectfully requests the inclusion of the following HFB funding priorities in the state budget:

AGR 192: $100,000 to establish a Grant Specialist Position within the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity to assist farmers and ranchers in applying for, obtaining, and fulfilling the requirements of grants offered by the United States Department of Agriculture, State, counties, or private entities.

BED 170: $5 million for the Waiahole Water System: The Waiahole Water System serves over 5,600 acres of agricultural land on Oʻahu, providing critical irrigation for diversified farming operations. This funding request seeks to pay off the bond debt service on the system. Continued operation and maintenance of this system are necessary for long-term agricultural viability in Central and Leeward Oʻahu.

UH 100: $5 million for the CTAHR Agricultural Research and Extension Station (CARES) in Kauaʻi: As part of a statewide network of agricultural experimental stations, the Kauaʻi facility plays a key role in agricultural research and farmer education. It supports research-based solutions to pest, disease, and climate adaptation challenges in the production of coffee, cacao, orchids, vegetables, forages, and goats. Unfortunately, many of the station's facilities are deteriorating and need repair. Without modernization, the station's ability to support Hawaiʻi's agricultural community will be severely limited. Upgrading critical infrastructure will enhance research opportunities, attract external funding, and improve outreach to local farmers and ranchers.

UH 100: $1.5 million for planning and design of a new Center on Biosecurity Research, Education, and Extension (CoBREE) at CTAHR that will develop and implement innovative solutions for detecting, monitoring, eradicating, and managing invasive species.

AGR 192: $2 million for the Farm to Families Program: Hawaiʻi faces persistent food security challenges, with many families experiencing limited access to fresh, locally grown food. At the same time, local farmers and ranchers struggle with unpredictable markets and barriers to expanding food distribution. The Farm to Families program presents a win-win solution by linking local food production with communities in need, ensuring that Hawaiʻi's agricultural products are used to feed Hawaiʻi's people**.**

AGR 141: $15 million for the Kunia Ag Park: Developing the Kunia Agricultural Park will create additional DAB Ag Park parcels and expand opportunities for farmers wanting to expand their production or for new farmers currently on the DAB's waitlist. This investment helps address unmet demand for agricultural lands while advancing Hawaiʻi's goals of increasing local food production and farmer access.

We appreciate the committee's consideration of these critical funding requests.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Testimony **IN SUPPORT** of expanded funding for Search and Rescue Coordinator

Oahu Search and Rescue
3-30-26

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Committee Members:

Oahu Search and Rescue is submitting testimony in favor of ensuring an appropriate budget for the newly created Search and Rescue Coordinator position covered in HB1800. While it is a huge step forward to create and fund this very critical position, the initial $100,000 listed is most likely not enough to achieve the early goals needed for this new position to be success.

The funding for this position should be in line with the newly created State Fire Marshal position to ensure a salary that will attract suitable talent to make the State SAR Coordinator a success. Additionally, while the full breadth and scope of the position will be established by the first person holding it, there is a high likelihood of additional staff and support needs even during the startup process.

Because of these two items, Oahu Search and Rescue urges the Committee to fund the position at a level like the State Fire Marshal funding package.

Thank you for your time and consideration.



Ethan Pearson-Pomerantz
President, Oahu Search and Rescue

HALE KIPA

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Gwen Okamoto, CFO

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Testimony in Support of H.B. 1800, H.D.1 – Relating to the State Budget

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Venus Kauʻiokawēkiu Rosete-Medeiros, President & CEO of Hale Kipa. I am writing in strong support of H.B. 1800, H.D.1, which serves as the State's Supplemental Appropriations Act for fiscal biennium 2025–2027 .

This measure is critical to ensuring that essential services across Hawaiʻi remain adequately funded and responsive to the growing and evolving needs of our communities. For organizations like ours, which serve vulnerable youth and families, stable and sufficient state funding is not just operational, it is life-changing.

As we continue to see increased demand for housing, mental health services, and prevention programs, investments through the state budget directly impact our ability to provide safe spaces, healing, and pathways to self-sufficiency for our young people.

We respectfully urge your support for this measure to ensure that Hawaiʻi continues to prioritize the wellbeing of its people and strengthen the systems that serve them.

Mahalo nui for the opportunity provide testimony,

Venus Kauʻiokawēkiu Rosete-Medeiros
President & CEO

March 30, 2026 at 10:00 am
Conference Room 211

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

To: Chair Donovan M. Dela Cruz
Vice Chair Sharon Y. Moriwaki

From: Hilton R. Raethel
President and CEO
Healthcare Association of Hawaii

Re: **Testimony in Support**
HB 1800, Relating to the State Budget

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii (HAH), established in 1939, serves as the leading voice of healthcare on behalf of 170 member organizations who represent almost every aspect of the health care continuum in Hawaii. Members include acute care hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, home health agencies, hospices, assisted living facilities and durable medical equipment suppliers. In addition to providing access to appropriate, affordable, high-quality care to all of Hawaii's residents, our members contribute significantly to Hawaii's economy by employing over 30,000 people statewide.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide **support** for this measure, specifically the funding for the construction of the Waiakea High School Health Learning Lab. The Healthcare Association of Hawaii (HAH) has launched a statewide initiative to modernize the classrooms in all public high schools with a Health Services Pathway into hands-on learning labs that better prepare students for careers in healthcare. These learning labs are designed to provide students with real clinical training environments to enable them to enter meaningful employment right after graduation.

Based on the results of our most recent workforce demand survey, the healthcare industry currently faces more than 4,000 job openings statewide. This is why our members have highlighted workforce development as one of the most urgent challenges facing our healthcare system today. The learning lab model addresses this challenge directly by providing students with opportunities to gain clinical skills, earn healthcare certificates, and transition more seamlessly from the classroom to employment in hospitals, clinics, long-term care facilities, and other healthcare settings. Through HAH's healthcare certificate employment program, more than 200 students have already been trained and hired directly from high school into healthcare careers.

The proposed Waiakea Learning Lab represents the next major step in this initiative. The project will renovate approximately 8,706 square feet of space—nearly three times the size of the first learning lab currently being completed at Wai‘anae High School—into a modern training environment that supports hands-on clinical practice and instruction.

Importantly, the Waiakea Learning Lab is designed as a proof-of-concept model that can be replicated across the state to create a best-in-the-nation network of health learning labs at public high schools in Hawaii. By supporting clinical learning, strengthening healthcare certificate programs such as Certified Nurse Assistant training, and creating direct pathways into employment, this initiative will help ensure that Hawaii grows and retains its own healthcare workforce.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this important initiative.

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/30/2026 5:51:32 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keolamau Tengan	Testifying for KA'EHU	Support	In Person

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Keolamau Tengan. I am a resident of Maui,
father to 2 amazing boys, and serve as Executive Director of KA‘EHU an Native Hawaiian-led nonprofit stewarding 64 acres of coastal wetland at Ka‘ehu Bay in Paukūkalo, Maui. I submit this testimony in strong
support of HB 1800 and urge this Committee to pass the full Green Fee
project portfolio intact.

One less thing. This means more now than it has before and is ever relevant to those of us who are working to steward the lands and waters of Hawai'i. This is a big part of what the Green Fee can do for grassroots organizations doing the work on 'ãina. One less grant to write. One less donor to ask. One less task in the myriad of to do's.

Indeed, the work of mālama ‘āina — caring for the land so that the land may care for us — is not abstract. It is daily, hands-on, and urgently
needed across the pae ‘āina of Hawai‘i. At KA‘EHU, we restore native
coastal habitat, remove marine debris, propagate native plants, build
firebreaks, reconnect our community with the ‘āina that sustains
us, and create a safe space for people to gather. In 2025 alone, we served more than 5,000 community members — a 230% increase over prior years — and removed nearly 8,000 pounds of marine debris from our shoreline. From creating fire-breaks to flood mitigation, from restoring natural waterflow to seeing the return of marine life in our bay - our work is neverending.

Despite this impact, community-based organizations like KA‘EHU operate
with limited, often fragmented funding. We rely on a patchwork of
grants and partnerships to sustain work that is essential to the
long-term health and resilience of our islands. Indeed, this is our reality on any given day of the week, however, with recent back-to-back Kona low storms of March 2026 reminded us all, in no uncertain terms, how vulnerable our shorelines and communities are —and how much more investment in proactive restoration and resilience work is needed now, not later. More tasks, more kuleana, more things to do.

The Green Fee project portfolio represents exactly the kind of
sustained, multi-sector investment that organizations across the pae
‘āina have long needed. When community-based stewardship groups are

empowered with stable, multi-year funding and workforce support, the results compound — restoration accelerates, communities grow more resilient, and the costs of future disasters are reduced.

I urge the Committee to honor the careful work of the Green Fee Advisory Council by passing the full project portfolio intact. Every project in this portfolio was selected because it is ready to deliver real outcomes for the people and lands of Hawai‘i. Now is the time to invest in our community and in our collective future.

Mahalo for your time and your service to our communities.

Me ke aloha pumehana,

Keolamau Tengan

HAWAIIAN COUNCIL

Hawai‘i State Senate

Committee on Ways and Means

HB1800 – Relating to the State Budget

RE: Support and Recommendations for HB1800 April 1, 2026

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee,

The passing of Act 96 (2025) into law marks a watershed moment in Hawai‘i’s economy and community. Addressing the tourism industry’s rising footprint on the ecosystem, waters, and local residents of Hawai‘i nei, the Green Fee offers a unique opportunity for revenues from the transient accommodation tax to be redirected towards community sustainability initiatives. As the Green Fee begins to take effect in 2026, the State must take on the formidable task of determining its project priorities and long-term goals.

Hawaiian Council is committed to creating sustainable, mutually beneficial futures for the ‘āina, its inhabitants, and our visitors. As such, we write in support of proposed projects dedicated to regenerative tourism, climate resilience, and Native Hawaiian values of stewardship. **Hawaiian Council strongly supports proposals BED116/DC, LNR906/AA, DEF118/AD, and LNR401**, with some small feedback and recommendations regarding the implementation of the proposals based on our collaborative efforts with industry partners and community members.

Understanding the amendments made to HB1949, HD1, SD1, we still strongly encourage this committee to move forward with the established Green Fee process recommended by the Green Fee Advisory Council. We urge the Legislature to support the Green Fee Project Recommendations in full, and work with state agencies to encourage strong community leadership and co-management to fulfill these ambitious and important priorities.

Category	Program ID	Project Title	Proposed funding for FY 2027	Recommended Changes to Proposal
Sustainable Tourism	BED113/AG	Community-led Visitor Education and Stewardship System	$7,620,000.00	None (Strong Support)
Environmental Stewardship	LNR906/AA	Green Fee Community Stewardship (Ahupua‘a Restoration)	$10,560,000.00	None (Strong Support)
Climate & Hazard Mitigation	DEF118/AD	Home Retrofit Program (Hurricane)	$5,000,000.00	Expand to include broad climate resilience protections
Climate & Hazard Mitigation	LNR401	Pilot Cesspool Conversions in Coral Hotspots	$1,000,000.00	None (Strong Support)

HAWAIIANS ADVANCING HAWAI‘I

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HAWAIIAN COUNCIL

Community-Led Visitor Education and Stewardship System (BED116/DC)

Following a lull in visitor arrivals during the COVID-19 pandemic, Hawai'i has seen a return of its tourism market with a formidable energy. The brief pause that the islands had to breathe illuminated the shifting trends impacting the tourism industry in recent years. The recovery of Hawai'i's ocean and terrestrial ecosystems during the pandemic further exacerbated the need for a renewed model of tourism that not only engages in sustainable practices but actively participates in the regenerative efforts. As discourse on responsible travel become increasingly relevant for both visitors and businesses, it is critical for the state to anticipate rising demands of regenerative tourism programming. As such, **Hawaiian Council strongly supports the allocation of $7,260,000 towards the development of a community-led visitor education and stewardship system.**

The proposal for a community-led visitor education and stewardship system establishes a cooperative relationship between local grassroots organizations and state agencies to develop opportunities for visitors to engage with native cultural practices and participate in mālama 'āina activities. Focusing on high-traffic areas across the islands such as East Maui, Keaukaha, Kīholo Bay, and Kahalu'u Bay, the programs would offer engagement opportunities for visitors and kama'āina alike.[1] Collaborative efforts between the state and local communities would ensure that the implemented programs are grounded in place-based community knowledge and have the resources to support long-term restorative efforts.

The lack of visitor education programs that are designed with the unique pressures of individual local communities has historically resulted in preventable damages and casualties for both residents and visitors. Illegal parking, trespassing, traffic snarls, and water-related injuries have all become regular occurrences in heavily trafficked areas such as the Road to Hana on Maui and Keaukaha beach on Hawai'i Island. Such issues, while partially attributable to unique geographies and infrastructure that are not built with high demand in mind, are rooted in a lack of place-based education rooted in community perspectives and values. The proposed education programs will not only benefit the visitor experience, but also relieve pressures placed on local communities to alter their day-to-day lives and practices.

There is strong precedent for community-based programs working with the tourism industry to offer culturally rich experiences for visitors. Since 2023, Hawaiian Council has partnered with the Hawai'i Tourism Authority to develop 'Umeke, a program that provides development opportunities for

[1] Hawaii Tourism Authority, "Tourism Briefing 2026," December 12, 2025.

community organizations working on destination management projects. Inspired by the calabash gourds of the same name that nourished our kūpuna, ʻUmeke has served as a valuable repository available to the community to promote aloha ʻāina values and Hawaiian culture in the visitor experience. In 2025, Hawaiian Council provided support to 134 organizations across the islands through ʻUmeke.[2] These community partnerships produced projects such as cultural tours of the Limahuli Garden and Preserve on Kauaʻi and ʻāina workdays on the ahupuaʻa of Pūpūkea and Waimea on Oʻahu.

Such projects have demonstrated the tourism industry's promising futures of environmental restoration whist honoring ancestral knowledge and Hawaiian cultural values. Despite the existence of development opportunities through organizations like Hawaiian Council, funding-related issues remain the primary concern for community partners. Among over 400 local businesses (out of 921) surveyed in 2024 that offer regenerative tourism programming, limited staffing and funding were two of the top barriers against greater participation in the visitor industry.[3] An additional 220 businesses and organizations expressed interest in participating in regenerative tourism in the future, given they had the necessary support.[4] As Hawaiʻi's visitor industry sees a shift towards community-oriented experiences, it is crucial that the systemic structures exist to support those working at the grassroots level. The stable source of funding the Green Fee would be instrumental in expanding similar projects across the paeʻāina and ensuring that our commitment to regenerative practices lasts through generations.

Ahupuaʻa Restoration and Stewardship (LNR906/AA)

In line with the aforementioned partnership with community-led visitor education systems, **Hawaiian Council strongly supports the allocation of $10,560,000 towards statewide ahupuaʻa restoration projects**. For generations, ahupuaʻa have existed as the central units in which cultivation, gathering, and trade took place. Spanning the ʻōhiʻa forests that populated the mauka regions to the fish ponds (loko iʻa) that were maintained by families makai, those who embraced the ahupuaʻa system were nourished by shared resources and access to waters. At its core, the concept of the ahupuaʻa is based on principles of self-sufficiency and collective kuleana to provide for the community.

[2] Hawaiian Council & Hawaii Tourism Authority, "Destination Stewardship Update," November 2025.
[3] Hawaiʻi Tourism Authority (Prepared by Kilohana, Ward Research, and Solutions Pacific), *Turning the Tide: Visitor Industry Needs Assessment Report* (2024), 7, https://regenerativetourismhawaii.info/needsassessment.
[4] Hawaiʻi Tourism Authority, *Turning the Tide* (2024), 6.

The privatization and development of Hawai'i's lands have transformed the relationships Native Hawaiians maintain to the 'āina. The introduction of invasive species decimated native ecosystems, and private land grants severed ancestral cultivation systems. In spite of the systemic dismantling of the ahupua'a system, its core principles and practices are still embraced by Kanaka 'Ōiwi today. In the current discourse of ecosystemic health and food sovereignty, the ahupua'a system offers a place-based model for regenerative futures grounded in stewardship and indigenous knowledge.

Ahupua'a restoration projects consider the task of 'āina stewardship from a holistic, systemic level. Restorative efforts spearheaded by organizations such as Kāko'o 'Ōiwi on He'eia and Pu'uhonua O Waimānalo include the cultivation of lo'i kalo, management of fish ponds, and restoration of native species in forest regions.[5] Central to these efforts is community participation, with projects being advanced with the support of volunteer workdays that bring in both local residents and visitors to the islands. In turn, produce grown in restored sites are returned to the community through the production of value-added goods and the supply of local kitchens. The successes of organizations across the pae'āina demonstrates the value of the ahupua'a model within existing frameworks of production and sustainability practices.

Like the proposal for community-based visitor education programs, ahupua'a restoration projects are founded upon the idea that the people of and from a place know it best. The concept of kaiāulu, or community, is not limited to the bounds of human relations—rather, it encompasses nā mea a puni (everything which surrounds). The concept of kaiāulu in Hawaiian culture speaks to the deep pilina (relationships) Native Hawaiians maintain to their ancestral lands and its elemental inhabitants. Families that have stewarded ahupua'a lands generationally hold valuable knowledge and cultural memory that can enrich a Hawaiian sense of place in local residents and visitors alike.

The 'ōlelo no'eau "ho'okahi no lā o ka malihini" ("a stranger only for a day") encapsulates the concept that everyone—visitors and residents alike—share a collective kuleana (responsibility) to contribute towards caring for our lands. With the fiscal support of ahupua'a restoration projects through Green Fee funds, the growing regenerative tourism industry can further imbue the visitor experience with place-based knowledge and a sense of kuleana to Hawai'i.

[5] Kāko'o 'Ōiwi, "History of He'eia," *Kāko'o 'Ōiwi*, https://kakoooiwi.org/history-of-he%ca%bbeia/; Pu'uhonua o Waimānalo, "Ahupua'a Restoration at Pu'uhonua O Waimanalo," *Nation of Hawai'i*, https://www.nationofhawaii.org/am-ahupuaa/.

HAWAIIAN COUNCIL

Home Retrofit Programs for Climate Resiliency (DEF118/AD)

In addition to promoting the development of Hawai'i's regenerative tourism industry, Hawaiian Council supports the allocation of Green Fee funds towards restoring local infrastructure to ensure a safer, more resilient Hawai'i. The rise in climate-related emergencies in Hawai'i, including storms that brought high winds and flooding to the islands over the past few months, highlights the need for the state to address key infrastructure issues in advance. As such, **Hawaiian Council supports the allocation of $5,000,000 towards home retrofit programs and recommends that the program language be clarified to ensure that homes are eligible for protection from multi-hazard threats along with hurricane/wind preparedness.**

Previous studies by the State Legislature have concluded that Hawai'i's infrastructure is not prepared for a major climate disaster. As a result of warming ocean waters across the Pacific, hurricanes classified as Category 3 or above have increased in frequency and intensity, with an increased likelihood of passing through the islands.[6] The legislature further found that models predict the frequency of Category 5 storms to increase nearly eightfold over the next 60 years. Despite historic natural disasters like Hurricane Iniki in 1992 and the Maui wildfires in 2023 pressing the need for infrastructure reforms, the state still lags behind in preparing for the next crisis. The current state building code's requirement for new buildings to withstand Category 3 winds is insufficient for the future of Hawai'i's climate landscape, and many low- and moderate-income families live in older homes that are at even higher risk.[7]

The process of retrofitting homes is a significant investment that many households cannot currently afford independently. But for every $1 spent on disaster resilience, it is estimated that the state will save up to $6 on subsequent costs during an event. With a stable, regular source of funding such as that provided by the Green Fee, the state can begin the process of strengthening Hawai'i's residential infrastructure starting with our 'ohana at the highest risk. Developing an effective and efficient home retrofit program requires fiscal and technical expertise alongside community consultation—and this allocation provides an opportunity for the benefits to be delivered to the maximum number of households.

Dedicated to promoting community energy sovereignty and climate resilience, Hawaiian Council's Kalāhiki program has worked closely with low- and moderate-income households to strengthen the

[6] Relating to Income Tax Credit, H.B. 355, Hawai'i State House of Representatives, Thirty-Third Legislature (2025).
[7] Noel Morin, "Is Hawaii Ready For The Next Big Hurricane?" *Honolulu Civil Beat*, September 23, 2024, https://www.civilbeat.org/2024/09/is-hawaii-ready-for-the-next-big-hurricane/.

infrastructure of at-risk communities with minimal financial burden on residents. As a facilitator between clients, contractors, and government agencies, the Kalāhiki program provides key insights into the needs of the community. In our work with its clients and partners, we have found that the largest barriers to household preparedness are fiscal and logistical, and that emerging threats such as fire, flood, and high temperatures are joining hurricane risk as major concerns for local communities. As such, Hawaiian Council recommends that the Home Retrofit Program's proposal ensure coverage of general climate resilience multi-hazard measures across all three aspects of this line item.

Working with contractors and business partners, Hawaiian Council has found that a major factor in the cost of a home retrofit is the baseline transport, supplies, and staffing to the site. Professional and technical labor can cost anywhere between $50 to upwards of $150 an hour, including travel, set-up, and break-down time.[8] Such costs can be significant, especially for suburban and rural areas that often are at higher risk. As such, a general multi-hazard climate resilience approach can maximize the benefit to at-risk households with a relatively minimal increase in cost. Hawaiian Council supports the multi-hazard approach used by the Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency (HI-EMA) and we are in strong support of a full allocation of this amount to be administered by HI-EMA.

Cesspool Conversions in Coral Hotspots (LNR401)

Hawaiian Council additionally **supports the allocation of $1,000,000 to pilot cesspool conversions in coral hotspots** in a further effort to renew Hawai'i's residential infrastructure and contribute to regenerative practices. Cesspool runoff in areas such as Kahalu'u Bay and Hōnaunau have been detrimental to local ecosystems and coastal landscapes. The introduction of contaminants into the waters of these hotspots have resulted in coral bleaching and death, leading to detrimental domino effects on fish feeding practices, turtle resting areas, and shoreline erosion. The damages at Kahalu'u specifically, considered a wahi pana (storied site) to Native Hawaiians in the area, is further exacerbated by heavy visitor traffic—estimated to number over half a million annually.[9] The layered ecological and tourism-based factors that affect these coral hotspots make the issue of cesspool runoff a major environmental and public health issue.

[8] Embrick Enterprises, "Hurricane Straps Retrofit Cost: Budgeting For Roof Reinforcement," August 30, 2025, https://embickroofing.com/hurricane-straps-retrofit-cost/; Hawai'i Construction Career Days Guide (2019).
[9] The Kohala Center, "Kahalu'u Bay and Beach Park," https://kohalacenter.org/kahaluu-bay.

Act 125 of the 2017 legislative session requires all cesspool owners to convert to a sewer system by 2050.[10] Despite this, little progress has been made in the conversion process. With cesspool projects being a relatively low priority for independent contractors, the fiscal and logistical support provided through Green Fee funds is especially important. A key issue in the field currently is a lack of trained personnel—the limited career paths available on-island for residents to gain specialized fields risks the outsourcing of conversion projects to partners outside of Hawai'i. With each community having unique needs and risks regarding the conversion process, it is crucial that the industry is locally rooted. The investment of the Green Fee fund will ensure that the necessary workforce is present on island, generating a positive feedback loop that will ultimately benefit local communities.

Since 2019, Hawaiian Council has operated its Trades Academy across the islands of Kaua'i, Maui, Moloka'i, and O'ahu. With over 45 academies across the pae'āina, the Hawaiian Trades Academy has supported over 1,000 students in accessing training resources and career paths in sectors including carpentry, emergency response, construction, and the creative arts. Program graduates leave with a wide network of local leaders, a strong sense of Native Hawaiian values, and the financial empowerment to ensure that they can support their families in Hawai'i nei. With new career opportunities opening through the support of Green Fee projects, Hawaiian Council looks forward to expanding the Trades Academy to address shifting needs in the workforce. Projects such as cesspool conversions, with training programs like Hawaiian Council's, would provide reliable job opportunities to local residents. Beyond the technical work of such projects, additional opportunities could include cultural protocol training and liaising with residents to determine community needs.

Conclusion

Recent climate-related crises have made clear that building a self-sufficient and resilient Hawai'i must be a top priority. Reaching Hawai'i's climate goals in the coming decades requires immediate action that address systemic issues regarding funding and trained personnel. The Green Fee fund offers a unique opportunity for reliable funding to be allocated to projects that will have direct, reverberating effects across Hawai'i's visitors and residents alike. Committed to the cultural, economic, political, and community development of Native Hawaiians, Hawaiian Council is dedicated to paving the way for regenerative, secure futures for the lāhui.

[10] Relating to Cesspools, Act 125, Hawai'i State House of Representatives, Twenty-Ninth Legislature (2017).

HAWAIIAN COUNCIL

Therefore, Hawaiian Council respectfully urges the committee to **maintain BED116/DC, LNR906/AA, DEF118/AD, and LNR401 as projects to receive full fiscal support from the Green Fee**. Mahalo piha for your commitment to the futures of our lāhui and the ʻāina that surrounds us.

Me ke aloha ʻāina,

Madelyn McKeague
Director of Advocacy, Hawaiian Council

HAWAIIANS ADVANCING HAWAIʻI
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HB 1800
Relating to the State Budget

Dear Senator Donovan Dela Cruz (Chair), Senator Sharon Moriwaki (Vice-Chair), and Members of the WAM Committee,

My name is Meghan Parker and I am submitting testimony in strong support of HB 1800 and thereby the entire Green Fee project portfolio.

Hawai‘i is already experiencing the compounding impacts of climate change and environmental degradation, including intensified wildfire risk, coastal erosion, coral reef decline, invasive species proliferation and water insecurity. These are not distant threats—they are actively affecting community safety, food security, cultural practices and the resilience of our local economy.

Coral reef ecosystems, in particular, are under increasing pressure from both global stressors and local, manageable sources of harm. Scientific evidence demonstrates that certain chemical pollutants—including commonly used sunscreen UV filters—can contribute to coral toxicity, reduced larval settlement and ecosystem degradation. At the same time, reefs provide critical coastal protection, reducing wave energy and safeguarding shorelines, infrastructure and communities.

On Kaua‘i, the island’s first coral restoration nursery is in its early stages of development, representing a critical opportunity to build local capacity for reef recovery. However, without sustained and equitable investment, this effort—and others like it—cannot reach the scale needed to meaningfully restore reef systems. Expanding coral restoration across all main Hawaiian islands is essential to safeguarding our coastlines, ecosystems and communities, and it is critical that Kaua‘i is included in these investments as capacity is being established.

The Green Fee project portfolio reflects a rigorous and thoughtful prioritization process. Hundreds of community-generated ideas and formal proposals from state agencies—representing billions of dollars in identified need—were evaluated based on their ability to address urgent and emerging environmental risks, deliver measurable outcomes and support long-term resilience. The resulting portfolio reflects both scientific understanding and community-informed solutions, positioning Hawai‘i to respond effectively to complex environmental challenges.

Green Fee funding has the potential to directly strengthen communities by supporting locally driven stewardship efforts. Across Hawai‘i, many of the most effective conservation initiatives are led by small, community-based organizations that are deeply rooted in place and practice. Stable, multi-year funding enables these groups to build and retain a skilled local workforce, implement long-term restoration and protection projects, expand education and outreach efforts and translate science into actionable community solutions. This includes scaling coral restoration efforts statewide and ensuring that islands like Kaua‘i—where restoration capacity is just emerging—receive dedicated support.

The strength of the Green Fee proposal lies in its integrated, systems-based approach. The selected projects are designed to work together—addressing land, water and marine ecosystems in a coordinated way that reflects the interconnected nature of Hawai‘i’s environment. Coral restoration, for example, must be paired with water quality improvements, pollution reduction, community engagement and long-term monitoring to succeed. Underfunding or excluding key efforts risks creating gaps that limit overall effectiveness.

Fully funding the project portfolio will maximize return on investment through coordinated action, reduce long-term costs by addressing root causes rather than symptoms and strengthen statewide resilience across multiple sectors. It will also ensure that restoration and protection efforts reach all islands, not just those with existing infrastructure, creating a more equitable and effective path forward.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Legislature to support full funding of the Green Fee project portfolio under HB 1800, including dedicated investment in coral restoration across all main Hawaiian islands and ensuring that Kaua‘i’s emerging restoration efforts are supported at this critical stage.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Meghan Parker

Ho‘omalu Ke Kai
Kaua‘i Coral Restoration Nursery

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/30/2026 7:50:48 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jacqui Hoover	Testifying for Hawaii Leeward Planning Conference	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am Jacqui Hoover, President and COO of Hawai`i Leeward Planning Conference (HLPC), a private nonprofit founded in 1974 to partner with government on planning for West Hawai‘i.

HB 1800 HD1 authorizes the planning, design, and construction of a new Outpatient Care Center to address the growing needs of the West Hawai‘i Region (WHR) under the Hawai‘i Health Systems Corporation (HHSC).

This public-private partnership between the WHR of HHSC and The Queen’s Health Systems will enhance healthcare infrastructure on Hawai‘i Island, expand the range of outpatient services available to residents, and decrease the necessity for individuals to travel off-island for medical care.

Since its founding, the Hawai`i Leeward Planning Conference (HLPC) has continued to operate under its original name while expanding its focus to encompass the entirety of Hawai`i Island. HLPC remains committed to collaborating with both government agencies and private sector organizations to support decision-making processes that reflect the values and aspirations of the island community, with areas of focus including:

- Agriculture
- Infrastructure, including energy, transportation, and water
- Housing
- Land use
- Natural and cultural resources
- Quality of life for residents and visitors
- Workforce and economic development

Through these initiatives, HLPC aims to assist in shaping decisions that contribute to sustainable growth and the well-being of Hawai`i Island's residents.

The Hawai`i Leeward Planning Conference (HLPC) expresses its strong support for HB 1800. Recognizing the importance of this measure for the community, HLPC respectfully urges its approval by the legislature.



Jacqui Hoover, President & COO

P.O. Box 2159, Kamuela, Hawaii 96743

Direct: (808) 960-7503 jacqui_hlpc@yahoo.com



To: The Honorable Donovan DelaCruz, Chair, The Honorable Sharon Moriwaki, Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition and Climate Protectors Hawai'i (by Ted Bohlen)

Re: Testimony in **SUPPORT** of HB1800 HD1, Relating to the State Budget **with a proposed amendment to fund low interest loans for cesspool conversions.**

Hearing: Wednesday, April 1 at 10:00am CR211

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee!

The Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition and Climate Protectors Hawai'i **support** HB1800 HD1and specifically its inclusion of **the full Green Fee project portfolio**. This bill would provide financial support for projects that will help address current and emerging environmental challenges faced by Hawai'i's communities. The Green Fee Advisory Council Recommendations Report outlines how the Year 1 Green Fee Revenues can best be invested to address the State's environmental, climate resilience, and sustainable tourism needs.

Disastrous effects from the recent Kona storms flooding, including health threats from overflowing

cesspools and sewage treatment plants spewing raw human waste into flood waters, emphasize the need to fund environmental solutions to ongoing climate change-related crises. In areas like Wahiawa, Waialua and Haleiwa, floodwaters were contaminated with sewage pollution from overflowing cesspools. The Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition and Climate Protectors Hawai'i urge the Committee to help **make cesspool upgrades more affordable** for homeowners by **appropriating $1million in funding for low-interest loans for low and moderate income homeowners converting their cesspools.** HB1618 HD1 would have provided that funding to the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority (HGIA) to administer such loans through a revolving loan fund. That bill passed the House and two Senate Committees but was deferred by EDT for a lack of quorum.

The Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition and Climate Protectors Hawai'i urge the Ways and Means Committee to budget in HB1800 SD1 **the full Green Fee project portfolio plus $1million in funding to**

HGIA for low-interest loans for low and moderate income homeowners converting their cesspools.

Mahalo!

Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition and Climate Protectors Hawai'i (by Ted Bohlen)

Testimony of the Enchanted Lake Residents Association (ELRA)
Regarding Funding for the Kaelepulu Stream Dredging Project
HB 1800 – Green Fee Initiative

Mahalo to the Hawaii lawmakers supporting this important initiative. My name is Gregory A. Colbert, and I serve as President of the Enchanted Lake Residents Association, representing 247 eligible member households abutting Kaelepulu Pond (Enchanted Lake).

We strongly support funding of the Kaelepulu Dredge Project which involves the dredging of a 500-foot shoal in Kaelepulu Stream. That shoal build-up currently blocks the natural flow of water between the Pond and the remainder of the stream leading to the ocean. In essence, the shoal has created a shallow plug—now only about one foot deep—that prevents stormwater from fully exiting the Pond. As a result, the flood hazard to homes around the Pond and other areas of the Kailua waterway system is significant.

During the most recent storm, water levels in the Pond rose above many homeowner seawalls. Had rainfall in our area matched the intensity seen in Wailua, the flooding could have been catastrophic. Removing this plug is a straightforward, shovel-ready mitigation project that directly reduces the impact of future climate-driven flood risks.

A 1994 hydrology study of the windward watershed concluded that Kaelepulu Stream can function as an effective flood-control channel when maintained at a depth of eight feet. The current shoal allows only a foot of water to pass over this plug and prevents the stream from performing its designed function. Assuring a proper depth aligns squarely with the climate mitigation objectives of the Green Fee Advisory Council and the State's climate-resilience goals.

ELRA has spent several years planning this project and has already secured all necessary Federal and State permits, including approval from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Hawai‘i Department of Health. The project is fully permitted and ready to begin pending full funding. We also note that there are numerous estuary water quality improvements associated with the project.

Although we have arranged substantial community funds, we remain short of the amount required to execute the project effectively. As a demonstration of our commitment, ELRA will more than match the State's contribution with our own community funds. We respectfully request an allocation of $700,000 from the Green Fee initiative to implement this critical work.

Please note that ELRA is not a homeowner association and does not have the same legal obligations and requirements of that form of organization. We are a volunteer-driven social organization (503.C7) dedicated to protecting and improving Kaelepulu Pond and the surrounding waterways. Our ability to effectively undertake this major environmental and flood-mitigation effort is further dependent on the supplemental help of grants such as this.

We believe this project ranks highly in terms of readiness, community benefit, and the ability to use funds effectively within the funding period. The Enchanted Lake community looks forward to your support for this essential climate mitigation effort. Thank you for your consideration.

Gregory A. Colbert
President, Enchanted Lake Residents Association

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March 30, 2026

Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Hearing Date: Wednesday, April 1, 2026, 10 a.m.

Subject: **HB 1800 HD1, Providing Comments**

Aloha Chair Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Sharon Moriwaki, and Members of the Ways and Means Committee:

The American Council of Engineering Companies of Hawaii (ACECH) represents 68 member firms with over 2,000 employees throughout Hawaii. Our member firms are directly involved in projects that address infrastructure capacity, climate resilience, hazard mitigation, environmental restoration, and public safety. As such, we have a strong interest in ensuring that the State's resources are deployed strategically and efficiently and support long-term infrastructure and resilience planning goals to promote public safety and economic prosperity.

While we generally don't take a position on individual budget items, we strongly support the Legislature's investment in essential infrastructure. Our roads, bridges, water and wastewater systems need consistent maintenance and upgrade, and we respectfully urge the Legislature to fund these projects. Engineers know that proactive investment in resilient infrastructure:

- Reduces lifecycle infrastructure costs
- Reduces failure risk during extreme events
- Avoids significantly higher reconstruction costs

To that end, we are in support of the appropriation of Green Fee revenues as recommended by the Green Fee Advisory Council (GFAC). We understand that the GFAC used a rigorous, criteria-based evaluation process to develop a portfolio of projects that could be shovel-ready or near-ready, with permitting pathways, design considerations, and implementation frameworks already in place. This positions the State to deploy funds efficiently and responsibly within the fiscal timeline.

We believe the Legislature's enactment of the Green Fee provided a unique opportunity for Hawaii to invest in resilient infrastructure that will reduce long-term strain on public infrastructure systems, improve safety, and lower future capital and disaster recovery costs. The GFAC-recommended funding portfolio includes investments that would directly strengthen Hawai'i's built and natural infrastructure systems, including wildfire risk reduction, coastal resilience, erosion mitigation, flood control, drainage improvements, watershed and aquifer protection, infrastructure resilience, and emergency preparedness. We also support strong transparency and accountability, including public reporting and project performance tracking for Green Fee projects, and ensuring that Green Fee funds are additive and do not replace existing infrastructure and environmental budgets.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify in support of strong funding for essential resilient infrastructure projects in Hawaii, including the recommended portfolio of projects by the GFAC.

Respectfully submitted,

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES OF HAWAII



Charles Jury, P.E., President

Chair
JENNIFER STOTTER

Commissioners
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Executive Director
LLASMIN CHAINE

HAWAII STATE COMMISSION
ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

March 31, 2026

Position: **SUPPORT** of **HB1800 HD1**, Relating to the State Budget

To: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Llasmin Chaine, LSW, Executive Director, Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women

Re: Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1800 HD1, Relating to the State Budget

Hearing: Wednesday, April 1, 2026, 10:00 a.m.
Conference Room 211, State Capitol

On behalf of the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women (HSCSW or Commission), HMS 888, I would like to thank the Committee for hearing this important bill. The Commission is in **strong support of HB1800 HD1**, as it enables our continued funding and the opportunity to advance programs, services, and gender equity goals for Hawaii's women and girls.

In light of the federal administrative priorities and active measures: to dissuade and disrupt gender equity policies; to reduce or eliminate funding for diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts; and the promotion of regressive gender roles; ongoing state budgetary support of the Commission on the Status of Women is especially needed and greatly appreciated.

The HSCSW was created by executive order on May 15, 1964, to function as a central clearinghouse of resources, services and advocacy for women and girls. The Commission engages in legislative advocacy and implementation, develops programs, collaborates with community organizations and state departments, provides field placements for students, delivers trainings and technical assistance, and serves as an informational resource for Hawaii's women and girls, on a broad range of policies and issues. A summary of our recent efforts can be found in our Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Report.

We respectfully urge this Committee to **pass HB1800 HD1**. Thank you for your consideration and this opportunity to submit testimony in support of the continued funding of the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women.

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The Nature Conservancy
Hawai'i and Palmyra

The Nature Conservancy, Hawai'i and Palmyra
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Testimony of The Nature Conservancy
Commenting on HB1800 HD1, Relating to the State Budget
Committee on Ways and Means
April 1, 2026 at 10:00 am
Conference Room 211 and via Videoconference

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee:

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify today. The Nature Conservancy (TNC) Hawai'i and Palmyra respectfully provides the following comments on HB1800 HD1, which adjusts and requests appropriations for fiscal biennium 2025-2027 funding requirements for operations and capital improvement projects of Executive Branch agencies and programs.

The environmental appropriations in HB1800 HD1 move Hawai'i toward a more resilient future by supporting work that reduces wildfire risk, protects coastal communities, strengthens fisheries and reefs, and maintains the long-term health of our forests and watersheds. These investments are ecological and economic in equal measure. Declining reefs weaken fisheries, degraded forests increase the cost of securing water, and worsening wildfires drive up the extraordinary costs of emergency response and recovery.

The Governor's green fee-related budget requests include major investments that align with urgent statewide needs and directly overlap with the on-the-ground conservation work that others, like TNC and our partners are focused on every day. These include:

- *Native Species and Terrestrial Ecosystems:*
  This subcategory of requests would fund a number of critical actions to restore the forests, grasslands and support communities across Hawai'i. By investing in watershed protection and partnerships, this funding would ensure that we can act now to remove the ungulates that decimate our landscape, control dangerous invasive species, and continue the everyday work we need to restore our native forest and fight against forest-bird extinction. TNC and our partners are already leading work like this across the main Hawaiian Islands, including at the 84,000 acres TNC manages on Kaua'i (Wainiha Valley and Kanaele Bog), Moloka'i (Kamakou, Pelekunu and Mo'omomi), Lāna'i (Kānepu'u), Maui (Waikamoi and Kapunakea) and Hawai'i Island (Kona Hema and Ka'ū). However, additional, sustained investment is direly needed to protect the functions of our forests and watersheds.

- *Aquatic Resources and Coastal Ecosystems*:
  This subcategory of request would help steward the long-term sustainability and health of our aquatic resources, including reefs, fisheries, wetlands, and nearshore ecosystems. Investments in coral nurseries, reef restoration, hybrid reef structures, marine debris removal, and comprehensive monitoring of coral reefs, water quality, and fisheries align with work that TNC and partners carry out across the islands. Strengthening loko i'a resilience, restoring nearshore habitats, and supporting the

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revival of traditional aquaculture systems are crucial for reinforcing mauka-to-makai connections and community-based stewardship. Together, these efforts improve ecosystems health and protect the coastal communities, cultural practices, and food systems that depend on them.

- *Wildfire Mitigation*:
  This subcategory of request would support critical work to reduce wildfire risk and build community resilience statewide. By investing in vegetation management, climate-hazard modeling, and Firewise community preparedness, the State can directly address the conditions that fuel extreme fire behavior in Hawai‘i. TNC has worked to restore native vegetation, remove ungulates, and pilot innovative post-fire recovery.

- *Coastal and Flood Mitigation*
  This subcategory of request would strengthen the nature-based systems that protect our coastlines and waterways. Wetlands that absorb floodwaters, reefs that reduce wave energy, and ahupua‘a restoration that improves interconnectedness all provide powerful defenses for communities of Hawai‘i. With sea level rise, king-tide events, and shoreline erosion, these defenses need consistent funding to remain effective.

Additionally, we are concerned about the exclusion of Watershed Protection and Initiatives within the Capital Improvement Program (CIP). Native forests supply the vast majority of our fresh water, yet only 22% of priority watershed acres are currently protected. The State's Watershed Initiative is committed to protecting 30% priority watersheds by 2030, and FY27 CIP funding is necessary to stay on track. This initiative has a proven track record of delivering large returns; past State watershed CIPs have leveraged more than $80 million in non-State funding since FY13. Without restoring this CIP line, Hawai‘i risks falling behind in water-security commitments, losing federal matching funds, and allowing invasive species and ungulates to accelerate forest decline.

HB1800 HD1 represents meaningful progress toward funding the environmental systems that make life in Hawai‘i possible. Supporting green fee-related funding and restoring the Watershed CIP request would further strengthen this budget, ensuring that we continue to protect the forests that feed our aquifers, the reefs that protect our shorelines, and the ecosystems that sustain communities across the pae ‘āina.

Mahalo for the opportunity to comment on HB1800 HD1.

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 84,000 acres in 13 nature preserves and 18 managed areas and have supported over 50 coastal communities to help protect and restore the nearshore reefs and fisheries of the main Hawaiian Islands.

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on
Ways and Means

Wednesday, April 1, 2026 10:00am

By
Rick Egged, President
Waikīkī Beach Special Improvement District Association

HB1800 – RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET.

Chair, Dela Cruz, Vice Chair, Moriwaki and Members of the Committee:

The Waikīkī Beach Special Improvement District Association (WBSIDA) strongly supports House Bill 1800 and the allocation of $7 million in Green Fee funds for the Waikīkī Beach Restoration Project. Waikīkī Beach is one of Hawai'i's most recognized and economically important natural assets, drawing millions of visitors each year and supporting thousands of local jobs in hospitality, retail, recreation, and small businesses. The beach is the foundation of Waikīkī's visitor economy, generating substantial state and county tax revenues while sustaining the vitality of the surrounding community. Significant investment has already been made to maintain beach in Waikīkī and continued investment in maintaining and restoring Waikīkī Beach is essential to protecting this critical economic engine and ensuring that the shoreline remains safe, accessible, and resilient in the face of ongoing coastal erosion and sea level rise.

Beyond its economic importance, Waikīkī Beach holds deep cultural and social significance for the people of Hawai'i. For generations it has been a gathering place for residents and visitors alike, a center of ocean recreation, and a historic cradle of modern surfing. The beach supports local lifestyles centered on ocean access, cultural traditions, and community connection to the coastline. Investing in the restoration and long-term stewardship of Waikīkī Beach will help preserve this iconic shoreline for future generations while reinforcing Hawai'i's commitment to protecting the natural and cultural resources that define our islands.

Investing in the restoration and maintenance of Waikīkī Beach is also a critical climate adaptation strategy as Hawai'i faces increasing impacts from sea level rise, stronger coastal storms, and chronic beach erosion. Healthy, wide beaches and dune systems act as natural buffers that dissipate wave energy, reduce shoreline flooding, and protect inland infrastructure, public spaces, and coastal businesses. Strategic beach restoration helps maintain this protective function while preserving public access and recreational use. This approach is consistent with state climate

adaption policies and supports the planning and adaptation concept of adaptation pathways which calls for various adaption measures including nature-based responses like beach restoration that have specific timespans and triggers for action and transition to a subsequent adaptation strategy.

Proactive investment today will help ensure that Waikīkī remains resilient in the face of projected climate change impacts over the coming decades. By restoring sand to eroding shorelines and implementing long-term management strategies, the State can reduce future emergency costs, protect vital infrastructure, and safeguard the economic and cultural value of this iconic coastline. Supporting this effort demonstrates a forward-looking commitment to climate resilience and responsible stewardship of one of Hawai‘i’s most important coastal resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure, the WBSIDA supports HB1800 and looks forward to continued discussion on the details.

Care for ʻĀina Now Coalition

April 1, 2026

Hawaiʻi State Legislature
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Re: Testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of HB 1800 HD1, Relating to the State Budget

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and esteemed members of the committee,

On behalf of the Care for ʻĀina Now Coalition Leadership Committee, we strongly support HB 1800 HD1, relating to the State Budget.

The Care for ʻĀina Now Coalition is a network of community-based organizations, practitioners, and local leaders committed to protecting and responsibly managing Hawaiʻi's natural and cultural resources. We support sustained, transparent, and community-informed investment of Green Fee revenues to address environmental challenges and strengthen climate resilience.

The projects proposed in HB 1800 HD1 build upon the work of the Green Fee Advisory Council, which incorporated input from hundreds of community-driven proposals statewide. Priority areas include watershed and coastal restoration, protection of nearshore ecosystems, climate adaptation, and improvements to parks and public spaces.

We also acknowledge the inclusion of Green Fee projects within HB 1949 HD1 SD1, relating to the Green Fee. As these investments move forward, it is essential that implementation is paired with strong transparency measures, including accessible public reporting and clear tracking of outcomes. Ensuring both effective execution and transparency will help build public trust and demonstrate the impact of these investments.

We emphasize strong partnerships between state agencies and community-based organizations in implementation. Community practitioners bring place-based knowledge and proven capacity to steward resources effectively, and collaborative approaches—including co-management and accessible funding pathways—will help maximize impact and ensure accountability.

We respectfully urge the Legislature to advance HB 1800 HD1 and align Green Fee investments with community priorities and environmental outcomes.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important measure.

Care for ʻĀina Now Coalition Leadership Committee

1099 Alakea Street, Suite 2530, Honolulu, HI 96813 | (808) 447-1840



April 1, 2026

Hawai‘i State Legislature
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Re: Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1800 HD1, Relating to the State Budget

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and esteemed members of the committee,

On behalf of the Hawai‘i True Cost Coalition (TCC), we are writing in support of HB 1800 HD1, Relating to the State Budget.

The Hawai‘i True Cost Coalition is an alliance of more than 80 community-based nonprofit organizations serving over 500,000 residents statewide. Our members provide essential services that form the backbone of Hawai‘i’s safety net, including shelter for at-risk youth, meals for seniors, behavioral health care, housing assistance, legal aid, and crisis response for families in need. These are services that state agencies cannot deliver alone and rely on strong partnerships with community-based providers.

HB 1800 HD1 is critical to maintaining these services for Hawai‘i’s most vulnerable residents, including kupuna, children, individuals experiencing homelessness, people with disabilities, and survivors of domestic violence. Recent federal funding uncertainties have only increased the importance of stable state investment to ensure these programs remain available to the communities that depend on them.

For many nonprofit providers, state contracts have remained largely unchanged for more than a decade despite rising costs for wages, facilities, insurance, and regulatory compliance. As a result, organizations have increasingly relied on private fundraising and internal reserves simply to sustain state-contracted services. This model is no longer sustainable and risks eroding the programs that support thousands of residents across the state.

By increasing funding for essential programs administered through the Department of Health and the Department of Human Services. HB 1800 HD1 strengthens Hawai‘i’s commitment to a stable and effective safety net. Investments in behavioral health services, food security programs, housing support, legal aid, and other critical services will help ensure that community-based organizations can continue meeting the growing needs of our communities.

Strengthening contract funding also allows nonprofit providers to better manage rising operational costs while maintaining services for individuals and families in crisis. These investments support stability across the nonprofit sector and help preserve the community-based infrastructure that underpins many of Hawai‘i’s most effective social services.

HB 1800 HD1 represents an important investment in Hawai‘i’s people, communities, and long-term resilience.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

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[1] **Hawai‘i Human Services Nonprofits - Ten Year Comparison of Operating Expenses**

Category	Years compared	Absolute Change	Average Annual Change
Electricity (cents/kWh)	2015-2024	41.8%	4.5%
Insurance (annual total of relevant premiums)	2014-2023	46.3%	4.5%
Payroll (annual average/employee)	2013-2022	44.1%	4.2%
Inflation (CPI All Items)	2015-2024	30.8%	3.0%

**Estimated office rent increased 7.8 percent over ten years, variable based on island/location.*

Source: Hawaii Data Collaborative in cooperation with the True Cost Coalition January, 2026

Date: 3/29/26
Bill: HB1800 HD1: Related to Green Fee Budgeting
Hearing Date: 4/1/26
Committee: WAM

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, Members of the Committee,

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of the green fee projects within HB1800 on behalf of Sustainable Coastlines Hawai‘i (SCH). SCH has been cleaning beaches, working with students across the islands, and connecting with visitors around stewardship for more than fifteen years. We have hosted some of the largest environmental/community-centered events and inspired a more connected way of living and interacting with our wonderful islands.

We are part of the Care of ‘Āina Now Coalition, which has worked tirelessly to put forth projects that are community-led and impact forward. It is so important that funds from this exciting new mechanism to take care of our home are delivered to the people on the ground who are connected with place and community. The proposed green fee projects in HB1800 are informed by the recommendations of the Green Fee Advisory Council, which integrates over 600+ proposals from community groups across the pae ‘āina. These priorities include coral restoration, protecting land and aquatic resources, preserving native species, reducing wildfire and flood risks, strengthening infrastructure, supporting destination management, and improving parks and beaches.

We are excited to help activate the possibilities of a healthier relationship between the people who visit Hawai‘i and the natural landscapes that attract them in the first place. Our work always starts with the people of Hawai‘i, and we will continue to prioritize the youth of the islands and residents in our activities. That being said, we have extensive experience working with visitors to the islands in ways that effectively build connections, deepen understanding of culture and environment, and bring home lessons that can radiate across the globe to create widespread impact in the very areas the green fee targets.

Mahalo for considering this important step in building a resilient and healthy community now and into the future.

With Aloha,

Rafael Bergstrom
Executive Director, Sustainable Coastlines Hawai‘i

TESTIMONY **ON HOUSE BILL NO 1800, HD1** RELATING TO
THE STATE BUDGET
Position: **Support**

To the honorable Senator Donavan Dela Cruz, Chair; the honorable Senator Sharon Moriwaki, Vice Chair; and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means:

Please accept this testimony in **support** of this state budget bill, and we ask that you consider the Green Fee project portfolio submitted to help determine how funds should be appropriated.

Simonpietri Enterprises LLC (SEL) is an O'ahu-based small business developing innovative ways to recycle waste generated in Hawai`i into sustainable products using a circular economy model. Our company mission is effective management of waste and environmental stewardship. Our goal is to do something productive with waste rather than let it sit and take up precious limited space on our islands. In our work to address some of Hawai'i's most challenging wastes, we have been able to simultaneously address energy, climate risk mitigation, landscape restoration and agricultural resiliency goals for the state.

The reality is that Hawai'i needs to start preparing more aggressively to reduce environmental and climate risks so that we can support and strengthen our economy by continuing to host visitors to our islands. The projects in the Green Fee portfolio have provided diverse recommendations that will have a powerful impact on strengthening Hawai'i's economy while providing resources to aid in climate and disaster resiliency. SEL feels this bill and the provided recommendations are steps in the right direction to preserve the beauty and integrity of Hawai'i for all.

As a company whose technical expertise and innovation are focused in the areas of waste management, energy and nutrient recovery, and the circular economy, we would like to see this budget bill passed with the proposed funding recommendations. We appreciate the opportunity to testify on this measure, and urge your support for this bill.

Sincerely,



Marie-Joelle Simonpietri
President

About Simonpietri Enterprises LLC

Simonpietri Enterprises is a Kailua, Hawaii-based woman- and veteran-owned small business with ten employees, focused on technical innovation and first-of-kind project development of emerging clean and renewable technologies. Since founding in 2006, we have helped dozens of small and large industrial companies in Hawaii, the continental U.S., Australia, and Canada improve the environmental and economic sustainability of their operations through technical and business advice in renewable energy conversion, waste reduction and re-use, and greenhouse gas lifecycle impact reduction. Simonpietri Enterprises' founder and employees have participated in the strategy, planning, design, financing, development, construction, and energy efficiency/greenhouse gas reduction/sustainability

renovation for over $400 million in new renewable and first-of-kind sustainable fuel projects over the past 15 years. Since launching the Aloha Carbon waste-to-fuel technical development process in August 2020, Simonpietri Enterprises is now developing renewable fuel production facilities in its own right, starting with the Aloha Sustainable Materials Recycling and Fertilizer Facility (SMRFF) in Kapolei, Hawaii to divert wastes generated in Honolulu from landfilling and transform it to renewable fuel, organic fertilizer, and recycled-material building products.

LOCAL FOOD COALITION

Hawai‘i Aquaculture & Aquaponics Association

Hawai‘i Cattlemen’s Council

Hawai‘i Farm Bureau Federation

Hawai‘i Farmers’ Union United

Hawai‘i Food Industry Association

Hawai‘i Food Manufacturers Association

Kohala Center

Land Use Research Foundation of Hawai‘i

Maui Farm to School Network (Maui F2SN)

Ulupono Initiative

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair

Wednesday, April 1, 2026 – 10:00 a.m.
Conference Room 211 & Videoconference

HB 1800 HD1 – RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee:

The Local Food Coalition (LFC) **supports** HB 1800 HD1 with an amendment to adjust **AGR 192 1070-001 to $100,000 to establish a Grant Specialist Position within the Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity**. This position would assist farmers and ranchers in applying for, obtaining, and fulfilling the requirements of grants offered by the United States Department of Agriculture, the State, counties, and private entities.

Establishing a permanent, dedicated grant specialist will ensure the Department is better equipped to help local farmers, ranchers, and producers access competitive federal, state, county, and private funding sources. A full-time position also provides continuity, institutional knowledge, and consistent outreach across multiple grant cycles—benefits that are difficult to sustain through temporary or contract-based staffing.

LFC also **supports UH 100** appropriating $1.5 million for planning and design of a new Center on Biosecurity Research, Education, and Extension (CoBREE) at CTAHR that will develop and implement innovative solutions for detecting, monitoring, eradicating, and managing invasive species.

The Local Food Coalition is an organization comprised of farmers, ranchers, livestock producers, investors, and other stakeholders united by a shared commitment to building a robust and self-sufficient food system for Hawai‘i.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.

SanHi
GOVERNMENT STRATEGIES
A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP

DATE: March 31, 2026

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz
Chair, Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Chris Delaunay / Mihoko Ito

RE: **HB1800, HD1 – Relating to the State Budget**
Hearing Date: Wednesday, April 1, 2026, at 10:00 AM
Conference Room 211

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means:

On behalf of the Kahana Bay Steering Committee (KBSC), **we support including green fee funding for the Kahana Bay coastal resilience project in the State Budget bill, consistent with the recommendations of the Green Fee Advisory Council.** The Advisory Council identified Beach Restoration—West Maui coastal resilience projects, including Kahana Bay, as a priority project, including targeted beach nourishment, shoreline stabilization, reef and water-quality restoration, stormwater and flood risk reduction and nature-based solutions.

KBSC is a group of nine condominium properties and one residential shoreline parcel at Kahana Bay on Maui that have been working collaboratively for several years to address severe and ongoing shoreline erosion affecting the bay. Recognizing that shoreline erosion operates on a regional scale, the property owners formed the KBSC in 2017 to develop, plan, implement and fund a regional solution to stabilize the shoreline and restore the beach. KBSC members have invested significant time and resources in this project. They have hired engineers, worked on an environmental assessment, and coordinated with state and county government agencies. Oceanit published the Second Draft Environmental Impact Statement in 2021, and KBSC continues to work towards the approval and implementation of their plan.

In the meantime, shoreline conditions continue to worsen. Many of the condominium properties along this shoreline are currently relying on emergency sandbags as their only protection against further erosion. These temporary measures leave buildings and infrastructure vulnerable to additional shoreline loss and highlight the urgent need for both short-term and long-term solutions.

KBSC members have demonstrated a willingness to move forward toward the implementation by continuing to work closely with government agencies, advancing environmental review and planning work, and supporting regional shoreline planning

First Hawaiian Center
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efforts such as S.B. 2401. Funding through the Green Fee program would help move this project from the planning and environmental review phase toward implementation and shoreline restoration.

Kahana Bay represents exactly the type of project the Green Fee was intended to support: coastal resilience, beach restoration, protection of public beaches, and protection of public trust resources. **For these reasons, we respectfully request that the Committee include funding for the Kahana Bay shoreline resilience project in the budget, consistent with the recommendations of the Green Fee Advisory Council.**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony.

ALOHACARE

To: The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
The Honorable Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Paula Arcena, Senior Vice President of External Affairs
Mike Nguyen, Senior Director of External Affairs
Maria Rallojay, Public Policy Specialist

Hearing: Wednesday, April 1, 2026, 10:00am, Conference Room 211

RE: **HB1800 Relating to the State Budget**

AlohaCare appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony in **support** of **HB1800 HD1, specifically the Governor's Department of Human Services budget request**. This measure adjusts and requests appropriation for fiscal biennium 2025-2027 funding requirements for operations and capital improvement projects of the Executive Branch agencies and programs.

AlohaCare is a community-rooted, non-profit health plan founded by Hawai'i's Community Health Centers and the Queen Emma Clinics. We serve over 66,000 Medicaid and Medicaid-Medicare dual-eligible residents on all islands. Since 1994, AlohaCare has partnered with providers, government entities, and community-based organizations to meet the evolving needs of our safety net community as Hawai'i's only health plan focused solely on Medicaid-eligible individuals. Our mission is to serve individuals and communities in the true spirit of aloha by ensuring and advocating for equitable access to quality, whole-person care for all.

AlohaCare's commitment to whole-person care includes ensuring that eligible Hawai'i residents can obtain, keep, and use health coverage without unnecessary administrative barriers. We support the Department of Human Services' budget request for resources to implement Congressional H.R.1, including funding for system requirements, staff augmentation, and related operational support. H.R. 1 makes significant changes to Medicaid, including complex eligibility changes, work requirements, community engagement requirements, and major system upgrades and contracts needed for compliance.

To avoid unnecessary administrative barriers for our residents, efficient and well-resourced implementation matters as administrative complexity can itself become a source of coverage loss. During the Medicaid unwinding, KFF (formerly known as Kaiser Family Foundation) reported that 87% of disenrollments in Hawai'i were procedural, meaning coverage was lost for paperwork or process reasons

rather than a confirmed finding of ineligibility[1]. When eligibility systems are strained, notices are confusing, timelines are tight, or staffing is insufficient, eligible people can lose coverage simply because they are unable to navigate the process successfully. That kind of avoidable churn disrupts care, medication access, behavioral health treatment, and care coordination, and it can be especially harmful for people with chronic conditions, disabilities, limited English proficiency, unstable housing, or other barriers to timely paperwork completion.

AlohaCare has begun the work to reduce avoidable coverage losses by investing in member outreach, education, and navigation support to help individuals navigate the changing requirements. This will include proactive communication with members, care coordination support for higher-need members, and partnerships intended to reach people before they lose coverage and experience disruption in care. These efforts reflect our broader commitment to helping residents stay connected to coverage and care. We cannot do it alone, and we need effective implementation of H.R. 1 requirements. For these reasons, AlohaCare supports this budget bill to provide DHS Med-QUEST Division the staffing, systems, and implementation resources necessary to reduce avoidable procedural disenrollments and help QUEST enrollees maintain the coverage they need.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify in **support** of **HB1800 HD1.**

[1] Tolbert, J., Rudowitz, R., & Drake, P. (2023, September 7). Understanding Medicaid procedural disenrollment rates. KFF.

Aloha Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Richard Pezzulo, and I am writing in strong support of the proposed Green Fee. I represent Waimea Valley operated by Hiʻipaka LLC, as one of the identified recipients listed in the Green Fee Project recommendations.

Waimea Valley is included on page 13 of the report under the subcategory Infrastructure and Capacity Building, specifically within the Destination Management Infrastructure Program. Our project is part of a shared funding pool of approximately $4.3 million, alongside Kīholo Bay and Hoʻopiʻi Falls.

Our original proposal focused specifically on rockfall mitigation, critical infrastructure, and safety needs within Waimea Valley. As a site that welcomes on average 500,000 visitors each year, ensuring safe access is essential not only for visitor experience, but for the protection of cultural resources, staff, and the surrounding environment. Rockfall hazards pose a significant and ongoing risk, particularly in the context of increased rainfall and erosion events that we are already experiencing. The most recent Kona Low storm in March 2026 severely impacted the Valley, including damage to our existing rockfall fenceline, further underscoring the urgency of these mitigation efforts.

The Green Fee represents an important and necessary step toward sustainable tourism management in Hawaiʻi. By reinvesting visitor-generated revenue into the protection and maintenance of our natural and cultural resources, this program supports long-term community resilience, environmental stewardship, and responsible destination management.

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

Sincerely,

Richard Pezzulo, Executive Director of Waimea Valley

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/31/2026 9:58:03 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dave Mulinix	Testifying for Greenpeace Hawaii	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, & WAM Committee Members,

My name is Dave Mulinix, Co-Founder & Hawaii State Representative of Greenpeace Hawaii. On behalf of our thousands of members and supporters statewide we stand in STRONG OPPOSITION to budget allocations as described in measures such as SB3240 that would provide funding for the State's Military and Community Relations Office (MACRO). SB3240 was soundly defeated during this legislative session due to major community opposition with some 300 community groups and individuals testifying against it. It is clear the community does not want to use our tax dollars in this manner.

We find MACRO's declared intent in SB3240 focused on indoctrinating our children starting in kindergarten to choose the military as a career path to be particularly concerning and essentially immoral and unethical. Of special concern is where this measure stated: *"The legislature also believes that strategic coordination is necessary to integrate the exposure of students in grades kindergarten through twelve to early college opportunities, internships, and direct-to-career pathways, and to align workforce development with Hawaii's evolving industrial and defense-related needs."*

There is great concern nationally that the U.S. is sliding into Fascism, with some nine million people in all 50 states voicing their concerns at the No Kings rallies this past weekend specifically protesting the Fascist tendencies of our current president and his cabinet. Some of their Fascist actions include violating international law by illegally kidnapping the president of Venezuela, illegally assassinating the leaders of Iran, illegally bombing a school in Iran murdering 160 innocent school girls, and I.C.E. Agents acting like Gestapo, facing no consequences for murdering innocent unarmed citizens in the street. The slide into Fascism isn't quick, it's slow and methodical. The slide starts out subtly and innocently. For example the Nazis in Germany started out with popular cultural youth camps to indoctrinate their children. MACRO's declared intentions, as stated in SB3240, looks too much like another step in the direction of the Fascist tendency already growing in our country, which should be a great concern for all of us.

Further, the US military does not need any more help from Hawaii tax payers' tight budgets to recruit students into their services. The U.S. Department of War budget for 2026 is $1.42 Trillion. The U.S. Military's over-bloated budget is 10 times larger then the next 10 countries

combined; eight of which are U.S. allies, and we are not even technically at war. By comparison, China spends $247 billion and Russia spends only $149 billion on their military.

The US military already has a very robust recruitment system in Hawaii with some 47 military recruiting offices across the state, and their recruiters also have access to job fairs at Hawaii High School and College Campuses. The US Department of War will spend over $640 million in 2026 on recruitment advertising this year. As our youth sit and wait to see films in our local movie theaters, advertisements flash across the screen prior to the film showing, encouraging Hawaii's youth to *"Be all you can be!"* and join the military. It is also very well known that the military will pay for the college education of our youth when they join. Since many low-income youth cannot afford a college education, this is their only way to get a college education, which essentially creates a poverty draft.

In what government watchdog groups are calling "Lobstergate," the U.S. Department of War is so overly funded that in September 2025 it blew $93 billion in a spending spree which included nonessential luxury items such as $7 million on lobster tails, $2 million on Alaskan king crab, $15 million on rib eye steak, and $98,329 for a Steinway Grand Piano. To add insult to injury the Pentagon doesn't even keep track of the money they waste and failed its eighth consecutive annual audit in December 2025, remaining the only major federal agency to never pass their audit.

As we are all aware, Hawaii has an over dependence on the military for financial income for the state. The problem with this over dependence on the military is that it sidelines our state away from cultivating other revenue streams to build Hawaii's economic stability that is not overly dependent on the military.

MACRO is seeking to silo our youth into a "dead end" career path. The funds being requested for MACRO would be much better used to help inspire and prepare Hawaii youth for essential careers that our people need and will be very beneficial to Hawaii like teaching, medicine, sustainable agriculture, and clean renewable energy.

Please do not add funding to the Hawaii State budget that would fund MACRO, because Hawaii tax payers cannot afford to waste our hard earned tax money on recruitment for the extremely well funded U.S. Department of War.

Mahalo,

Dave Mulinix

Co-Founder & Hawaii State Representative

Greenpeace Hawaii

LATE

Hawai'i Youth Services Network

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Phone 808.489.9549
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Roxanne Costa
Laura Brucia Hamm
Susana Helm
Sione Ford Neata

TO: Chair DelaCruz, Vice-Chair Moriwaki, & Members of the Committee on Ways and Means

Date: March 31, 2026

Hawai'i Youth Services Network (HYSN) **strongly supports** HB1800, HD 1, which provides supplemental funding for the Judiciary.

This is a vital measure to ensure community-based organizations across the State are funded appropriately while being responsive to the rising costs and needs of our communities. This funding is critical for our network of youth serving organizations that provide direct services for our most vulnerable young people.

On behalf of HYSN and its member agencies, I urge you to pass HB 1800 HD 1 to ensure support of the vital community based organizations that work collaboratively with the State and to ensure there is a significant appropriation for state contracts that support the true costs of critical health and human service programming for youth across Hawai'i.

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

Sincerely,



Sonia Blackiston
Executive Director
808.489.9549

LATE

To: Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Re: **HB 1800 HD1 – Relating to the State Budget**
Hawai'i State Capitol, room 211 & Via Videoconference
April 1, 2026, 10:00 AM

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1800 HD1 – RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks! (HCAN), we respectfully submit testimony in strong support of HB 1800, HD1, and the critical budget items included therein. We also urge the Committee to retain and prioritize the specific funding requests outlined below, which are essential to strengthening Hawai'i's early childhood system, workforce stability, and social safety net.

Strengthening Early Learning Infrastructure and Capacity

HCAN strongly supports the Executive Office on Early Learning (EOEL) request for 3.00 permanent general fund positions, including:
- 2.00 FTE Program Specialist IV positions
- 1.00 FTE Evaluation Specialist II position

These positions are budget-neutral and critical to advancing statewide coordination, data systems, and implementation of the Early Childhood State Plan.

We also support preschool expansion funding including:
- $27,106,000 in general obligation bond funds
- $4,894,000 in special funds

Supporting the Early Childhood Workforce and Facilities

HCAN supports:
- $19,000,000 in capital improvement funds

Sustaining Community-Based Providers

We support:
- Increased DHS contract funding
- Funding for rising liability insurance costs
- $79,000 per classroom increase for Pre-K Only Public Charter Schools

Protecting Child Welfare Services

We support funding to offset rising liability insurance costs for child welfare providers.

Addressing Housing and System-Level Barriers

We support:
- $326,882 for 2.0 FTE positions for the State Building Code Council

Conclusion
HCAN urges support for all of the above investments to strengthen systems serving Hawai‘i’s children and families.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Malia Tsuchiya

Early Childhood Policy and Advocacy Coordinator

GRASSROOT INSTITUTE OF HAWAII

1050 Bishop St. #508
Honolulu, HI 96813
808-864-1776
info@grassrootinstitute.org

Removing barriers to Hawaii's prosperity

March 30, 2026, 10 a.m.
Hawaii State Capitol
Conference Room 211 and Videoconference

LATE

To: Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Sen. Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Sen. Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair

From: Grassroot Institute of Hawaii
Ted Kefalas, Director of Strategic Campaigns

RE: TESTIMONY WITH COMMENTS ON HB1800 HD1 — RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair and other Committee Members,

The Grassroot Institute of Hawaii offers **comments** on — and **amendments** to —HB1800 HD1, which would appropriate and allocate funds for the current and upcoming fiscal years.

The HD1 draft of the bill would allocate approximately $10.69 billion in general funds to state departments and agencies for fiscal 2027, up from $10.38 billion in the current fiscal year.

In terms of total means of financing, the bill would appropriate $20.47 billion — up from $19.73 in the current fiscal year's budget. This figure contains all general, special, federal and other funds the state expects to receive in the upcoming fiscal year.

Grassroot believes that the state should seek to curtail additional spending this year to hedge against possible financial uncertainty and to preserve the income tax reductions the Legislature approved in 2024.

Grassroot respectfully requests that the Committee revert this bill to the original HB1800 language, amended to reflect Gov. Josh Green's proposed budget amendments put forth in governor's messages two, five and six.[1]

[1] Governor's Message No. 2 (2026), Jan. 30, 2026; Governor's Message No. 5 (2026), March 2, 2026; and Governor's Message No. 6 (2026), March 24, 2026.

Together, these changes would reduce the amount of general funds appropriated in this bill by about $43 million on net.[2]

For context, the HB1800 HD1 version proposes to cut about $150 million — mostly in planned debt service and health benefit payments — from the governor's proposed budget alongside appropriating more than $195 million in additional spending, with the largest increases going to the Department of Education and the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

The fact that the HD1 draft of this bill identified many ways to reduce the governor's proposed budget shows that the Legislature can take measures to trim spending.

In addition to these cuts, Grassroot encourages the Committee to review the attached document that details how the state could save more than $1 billion over the next few years.

The Committee could begin by striking the $58 million special fund appropriation for Aloha Stadium, defunding at least some of $420 million allocated to the state's more than 4,200 vacant positions and abolishing the Hawaii Tourism Authority to save $66 million.

For months, Hawaii taxpayers have been told that the state is in a difficult financial position.[3] But the spending increases proposed in the House draft of the budget bill do not reflect this sentiment — especially considering lawmakers are also contemplating ways to reduce the income tax reductions approved in 2024.

We urge the Committee to reject attempts to balloon the budget or take more hard-earned money from Hawaii taxpayers.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Ted Kefalas
Director of Strategic Campaigns
Grassroot Institute of Hawaii

[2] Grassroot analysis of "Conference Report No. 1208-26," HB1800 HD1, March 11, 2026.
[3] Chad Blair, "Hawai'i Governor's Proposed State Budget Anticipates More Federal Cuts," Honolulu Civil Beat, Dec. 22, 2025; and Daryl Huff, "Governor highlights progress, confronts budget crisis in legislative address," Hawaii News Now, Jan. 26, 2026.

Ten ways to free up resources

How to close the $246M gap without raising taxes

Revenue from tax cut "pause" — $246M in FY 2028

Revenue from potential savings — **$1.4B+ in FY 2028**

$500M+ • • • • • • • • • • • Repurpose all idle special funds

$380M • • • • • • • • • Remove all vacant state positions
$190M for low priority positions, $30M for positions vacant for 4+ years

$120M • • • • • • • • • Return state budget to 2019 level
Set budget equal to 2019 dollars, adjusted for inflation

$115M+ • • • • Disband special funds flagged by auditor

$89M • • • • • • • • • • Impose a 14% budget restriction
Governor directs departments to restrict spending, currently set at 10%

$81M • • • • • • • • • • Sell the Hawaii Convention Center
$81M total, $21M in special funds, $60M in unsold GO bonds

$66M • • • • • • • Defund the Hawaii Tourism Authority

$49.5M • • • Withdraw DBEDT funds for Aloha Stadium

$11M • • • • • • • Defer technology systems upgrades
FAMIS, State Archive RFID chips

$10M • • • Revert budget of DHRD to pre-2023 spike

$1.4B+ Potential savings

808-864-1776
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GRASSROOT INSTITUTE OF HAWAII

CLIMATE HAWAI'I | TRANSFORMATIVE COLLABORATION

hec HAWAI'I EXECUTIVE COLLABORATIVE

ZEPHYR INSURANCE COMPANY, INC. A Heritage Insurance Company

HAWAI'I GAS THE CLEAN ENERGY COMPANY

Hua Nani Partners policy | strategy | advisory

ahl.

The Nature Conservancy Hawai'i and Palmyra

Hawaiian Electric

OUTRIGGER HOSPITALITY GROUP

HAWAI'I GREEN GROWTH UN LOCAL2030 HUB

Par Hawaii

KOBAYASHI GROUP

SCHOOL OF OCEAN AND EARTH SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I AT MĀNOA

Re-use Hawai'i preserve | provide | sustain

blue planet

LATE

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS
April 1, 2026, 10 a.m., Room 224

Testimony in support of HB 1800 HD1
Relating to Green Fee Funding Recommendations

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and members of the Ways & Means Committee:

As partners of Climate Hawai'i, we offer our strong support of the Green Fee funding appropriations as recommended by the Green Fee Advisory Council (GFAC) in HB 1800 HD1. Through your leadership last session, Act 96 was adopted to establish the Green Fee. The decision before the Legislature today is whether to implement it in a way that reflects the urgency of Hawai'i's climate challenges and the integrity of the Council's process.

A Community-Informed, Criteria-Based Process

The Council's recommendations are grounded in one of the most comprehensive and transparent processes the State has undertaken for climate and environmental investment. More than 500 public ideas and over 100 formal proposals were evaluated using standardized criteria: results, readiness, relevance, relationships, and region. This framework ensured that projects were prioritized based on measurable impact, community need and vulnerability, cultural and place-based knowledge, readiness to implement, and strength of partnerships. The result is a balanced, statewide portfolio that reflects both technical rigor and community voice.

Why These Investments Matter Now

Hawai'i is already experiencing the impacts of climate change:

- Wildfire risk is increasing
- Coastal erosion and sea level rise threaten communities and infrastructure
- Coral reef degradation and invasive species impact ecosystems and food security
- Extreme rainfall and flooding are becoming more frequent

The recommended projects address these risks through a systems-based approach that connects mauka to makai, strengthens ecosystems, and builds community resilience. Importantly, many of these efforts are led by or in partnership with community-based organizations, which are essential to long-term stewardship but often under-resourced.

Equity, Capacity, and Long-Term Impact

The Green Fee represents an opportunity not only to fund projects, but also to strengthen local capacity across the state. The Year 1 portfolio includes:

- Community-based watershed and coastal restoration
- Climate resilience workforce development
- Fire mitigation and prevention programs
- Visitor education and stewardship initiatives
- Monitoring and evaluation to ensure accountability

These investments help ensure that resources reach communities most impacted by climate risk and historical underinvestment.

Key Requests

Climate Hawai'i and its partners respectfully urge the Legislature to:

- **Fund the full GFAC-recommended portfolio** across all three statutory categories
- **Maintain the equal funding split** required under Act 96
- **Ensure equity in implementation**, including support for community-based and Native Hawaiian-led initiatives
- **Protect the integrity of the funds** so they remain additive and are not diverted or used to supplant existing budgets
- **Support transparency and accountability**, including public dashboards and regular reporting

The Green Fee connects visitor activity to the stewardship of the resources that sustain Hawai‘i. The Council has done the work to identify projects that are ready, impactful, and grounded in both science and community input. Now is the time to move forward with successful implementation. By funding these recommendations, the Legislature affirms a commitment to climate resilience, environmental stewardship, and the well-being of Hawai‘i’s communities for generations to come.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

About Climate Hawai‘i

Climate Hawai‘i seeks to close the gap between climate concern and coordinated action by helping organizations navigate tradeoffs, build alignment, and unlock solutions to Hawai‘i’s most pressing climate challenges. Our work brings together leaders across sectors to develop shared understanding and accelerate progress toward a resilient, equitable, and low-carbon future.

Climate Hawai‘i partners supporting this testimony:

- AHL
- Blue Planet Foundation
- Hawaiian Electric
- Hawai‘i Executive Collaborative
- Hawai‘i Gas
- Hawai‘i Green Growth
- Hua Nani Partners
- Kobayashi Group
- Outrigger Hospitality Group
- Par Hawaii
- Reuse Hawaii
- School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology, University of Hawai‘i, Manoa
- The Nature Conservancy, Hawai‘i and Palmyra
- Zephyr Insurance Company, Inc.

LATE

Committee on Ways and Means
Committee Chair Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz
Committee Vice Chair Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki

March 30, 2026

RE: **IN SUPPORT** of HB1800 State Budget HB1800, Relating to *"Gov 100 sequence 1100-001 for 1 perm Search and Rescue Coordinator*"

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Hawai'i Search And Rescue (SAR) Alliance, mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.

With the increase of extreme weather, and the effects from the recent **Kona Low storms** as well as the **August 8, 2023, Maui wildfires** where search and rescue was in dire and immediate demand, the State Search and Rescue Coordinator/Office (SSARCO) and appropriations to support it must become a disaster response priority.

We must clarify that current appropriations cover the foundational development and represent only a **fraction of the specialized expertise** and the **24/7 operational infrastructure** required to protect our Hawai'i's residents, our $20 Billion annual visitor economy, and the natural resources that make the islands so exceptional—which are all at extreme risk.

When it comes to search and rescue, the difference between life and death is minutes—and coordination is key! Real time examples are Kona Low Storms and previously the August 8th, 2023 Maui wildfires.

With increased frequency of extreme weather, posing imminent threats of emergencies throughout Hawaii in recent years, first responders' duties have extended. Coordination and communication between counties and agencies at the state level is critical before incidents become **unmanageable and escalate to a Federal level**.

Our current SAR efforts are **fragmented across over a dozen different agencies and jurisdictions** in a reactive state without the essential single point of contact to provide the daily centralized oversight and administrative accountability required to streamline inter-agency, mission-critical emergency communications and coordination efforts for urban, maritime, and wilderness SAR, as well as missing person investigations—**to unify county, state, and federal life-saving efforts**—ranging from a single missing person to a catastrophic incident.

The State Search and Rescue Coordinator/Office (SSARCO) is a necessary safeguard—a **vital insurance policy**—to protect the lives of our residents and visitors, the health of our 'āina, and the **stability of Hawai'i's economy**.

The unpredictable and hazardous environments in which responders operate—including the specialized tools, training, and technology required for the wide range of demands and Hawai'i's topography—are rapidly expanding due to the increasing frequency of extreme weather.

This expansion of duty is further complicated by **infrastructure failures** during crises. When infrastructure is unreliable, the demand for SAR is even greater; that is when we must utilize our greatest asset: **our human capital—our volunteer SAR teams and community members.** In both Kona Low storms and Maui wildfires, our community members were **boots on the ground—providing the immediate response—when it mattered most.**

The SSARCO will bridge that mission-critical coordination and communications gap. By maintaining a clear picture of available state assets and the authority to deploy mutual aid across counties, this office ensures a faster, more efficient response when every second counts toward saving a life.

The lack of a unified data framework leaves the State without a clear operational picture. By centralizing data, the State can finally **quantify the actual cost burden of SAR** and establish a baseline to **develop and implement a proactive SAR System Framework.**

Furthermore, the SSARCO will aggressively pursue untapped federal grants and manage private reimbursements—revenue streams currently lost due to a lack of coordination. By leveraging data to reduce high-cost missions and securing external funding, the resulting cost-avoidance and revenue generation **will ensure this office pays for itself many times over.**

Recent events highlight a heavy reliance on community members managing life-saving efforts in the absence of a centralized framework:

- **Kona Low Storms:** Approximately **162–196 Agency Rescues** were supplemented by an estimated **160–200 Community-Led Rescues**, filling the gap where state resources were unavailable.
- **2023 Maui Wildfires:** Beyond the **102 lives lost**, over **10,000 residential evacuees** were stranded for days without medicine or coordinated aid, forcing the community to enact its own emergency measures.
- **High Rate of Missing Persons:** According to 2022 NamUs data Hawaii ranked **2nd in the nation** for missing persons (tied with Oklahoma); because agency searches often cease after **72 hours**, finding anyone beyond that window is **dependent on community efforts.**

The magnitude of these figures demonstrates that the **State Search and Rescue Coordinator/Office (SSARCO)** is a vital insurance policy to unify county, state, and federal efforts and protect Hawai‘i’s people and economy.

Therefore, we stand in strong support of HB1800 (Gov 100 sequence 1100-001) for one permanent Search and Rescue Coordinator. We ask that appropriations for the SSARCO reflect a priority on disaster preparedness and ensure every missing person case is adjudicated according to National Association of Search and Rescue Standards. The $2.4 billion in annual tax revenue generated by Hawai‘i’s visitors is currently built upon a systemic infrastructure failure: the lack of a dedicated state-level safety brand and SSARCO.

Despite the clear economic necessity of safety and prevention, 2018–2025 data reveals a critical funding gap: state-level tourism entities provided $0 in dedicated wilderness and urban prevention and safety funding. This total lack of investment is a deficit in safety awareness and education, the "**missing link**" that leaves Hawai‘i uniquely vulnerable.

National Comparison: The Inland Safety Deficit Hawai‘i leads the nation in tax revenue per visitor ($247) but remains the only major destination with a **total deficit** of dedicated inland state-level SAR coordination.

State / Province	Tax Revenue Per Visitor	Total Tax Revenue	Annual Visitors	Total Visitor Spending	**Ocean Safety Investment**	**Ratio (Ocean Safety vs. Tax $)**	State-Level Inland dedicated SAR Coordination	**Ratio (Safety vs. Tax $)**
WYOMING	$32.87	$263.0 Million	8.0 Million	$4.9 Billion	$0 (Landlocked)	N/A	$4.3 Million (SAR Fund)	1 : 65
NEW YORK	$36.14	$11.4 Billion	315.4 Million	$94.0 Billion	Minimal State-Level***	N/A	$41.0 Million (Wilderness/Ops)	1 : 278
UTAH	$156.67	$2.35 Billion	15.0 Million	$12.3 Billion	$0 (Landlocked)	N/A	$2.5 Million (Reimb. Fund)	1 : 940
CALIFORNIA	$47.01	$12.6 Billion	268.0 Million	$157.3 Billion	~$150.0 Million*	1 : 84	~$7.3 Million (CalOES SAR)	1 : 1,726
*BRITISH COL.	$95.42	$2.5 Billion	26.2 Million*	$22.1 Billion	Minimal Provincial Spend**	N/A	$1.0 Million (Adv. Smart)	1 : 2,500
FLORIDA	$234.96	$33.6 Billion	143.0 Million	$134.9 Billion	~$80.0 Million**	1 : 420	~$5.0 Million (Inland Base)	1 : 6,720
HAWAI‘I-Breakdown**	**$247.42**	$2.4 Billion	9.7 Million	$20.7 Billion	**$37 - $43 Million**	**1 : 65 to 1:56**	**$0.00**	**0 : 2.4 Billion**

**Represents base provincial grant to BC AdventureSmart; total SAR system support is significantly higher. While the following figures are based on the most recently verified annual reports, preliminary 2025–2026 data indicates an even wider.gap in funding and a higher deficit in dedicated SAR coordination, demonstrating that the SSARCO is even more valuable to the State's economic stability than these numbers suggest.*

Breakdown of Hawai‘i's dedicated SAR, Safety and Prevention Investment

Category	Annual Funding (Approx.)	Source / Status
Honolulu Ocean Safety (OSD)	**~$20.8 Million**	County General Fund (Elevated to stand-alone Dept. in 2024).
Maui, Kaua‘i, Hawai‘i County	**~$15–18 Million**	Combined County funds (Operated under Fire/EMS Depts).
Ocean Stewardship User Fee	**$1M – $5M (Est.)**	New $1 per person commercial activity fee (DLNR).
State-Level SAR Coordination	**$0**	**NO dedicated state inland SAR funding or coordination.**
HTA / CNHA Contribution	**$0**	**No direct funding for state-level wilderness SAR, Safety or Prevention.**

The reality of the resource gap above is that Hawai‘i invests approximately **$40M in Ocean Safety** for our 750 miles of coastline. Yet, for our **3.8 million acres** of rugged terrain, remote wilderness, and active volcanoes, there are **no dedicated state funds found** to support a unified inland SAR framework. This imbalance leaves a massive portion of our geography—and the people within it—without a coordinated safety net.

Building the SAR Framework will be a Two-Phase Approach. Unlike the Office of the State Fire Marshal—which operates within a long-established system—the SSARCO must architect a brand-new statewide framework from the ground up—requiring a high-level specialist to execute two distinct, concurrent functions.

Phase 1: Current Appropriations (Development) Current funding for “Gov 100 sequence 1100-001” covers approximately half the cost required to initiate the office. This "seed" funding allows for a **System Architect** to execute:

- Strategic Planning: Evaluating current capabilities and drafting the Statewide SAR Framework.
- Data Collection: Measuring the data required to quantify the actual state cost burden.
- Administrative Oversight: Providing the expertise to implement and enforce future SAR legislation.

Phase 2: Operational Requirements (Full Implementation) To evolve this blueprint into a functional 24/7 "insurance policy," additional appropriations will be required to fund:

- 365/24/7 Mutual Aid Coordination: Transitioning the State from a reactive posture to a proactive readiness command. This provides the leadership, jurisdiction, and constant operational oversight necessary to deploy specialized resources across maritime, wilderness, and urban SAR state and county agencies, non-profits, and volunteers.
- Cross-Jurisdictional SAR Operations: Unifying county, state, and federal efforts across urban, maritime, and wilderness domains to eliminate existing gaps in the public safety chain.
- Statewide Administrative Oversight: Serving as the State’s Single Point of Contact for over a dozen agencies and jurisdictions to ensure both fiscal and operational accountability.

Per consultation with the National Association of Search and Rescue (NASAR), this must be a **technical hire, not a political appointment.** To ensure the authority required to coordinate across all counties, funding for the SSARCO and supporting staff should be **consistent with the Office of the State Fire Marshal.** A professional insurance policy for the State must be reflective of the $21.75 billion visitor economy this office is tasked to protect.

Mahalo, I will be available for questions.

Rosemarie Johnson
BSE, MBA, MBB, TICC, Strategist
Director, Hawai‘i SAR Alliance
Director@HawaiiSARalliance.org

The Hawaii SAR Alliance consists of subject matter experts which include local experts representing all relevant state agencies as well as national partners—who meet to determine best practices and support SAR system development. It is a collaborative effort of multiple agencies, teams, and organizations that conduct SAR operations across the State of Hawai‘i ensuring that recommendations are grounded in the specific operational realities of Hawai‘i’s unique topography and agency structures. It consists of local experts representing all relevant state agencies, and national subject matter experts to determine best practices and support SAR system development.

Please note: Due to the current and ongoing Kono Low Storms and active emergency recovery efforts authorized under the Second Proclamation dated March 10, 2026, Third Proclamation dated March 16, 2026, and Fourth Proclamation dated March 19, 2026 for state and county agencies to respond to ongoing flooding and severe weather threats, **key responders are** deployed with ongoing recovery efforts and **unavailable for testimony.**

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/25/2026 5:26:09 PM
Testimony for WAM on 3/30/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tammy Perkins	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair, Vice Chair, and Members,

I stand in strong opposition to Executive Budget funding under HB1800 for any program involving the release of *Wolbachia*-infected or lab-altered mosquitoes in Hawai‘i.

> **These mosquito releases are dangerous, irreversible, and pose unknown long-term risks to public health and our fragile island ecosystems.**

Under **Article XI, Sections 1 and 9 of the Hawai‘i Constitution**, the State has an **affirmative duty** to protect natural resources and guarantee a clean and healthful environment. That duty is enforceable.

In **In re Water Use Permit Applications (Waiāhole Ditch Case)**, the Hawai‘i Supreme Court made clear:

> Where uncertainty exists, the State must act with **precaution**, not risk.

Releasing altered biological organisms into the environment—with no ability to recall them—violates that principle.

Under **HRS Chapter 343**, actions with significant environmental impact require full review. There is no credible argument that releasing engineered or bacteria-altered mosquitoes into Hawai‘i’s ecosystem is anything less than significant.

Under **HRS Chapter 91**, agency decisions cannot be arbitrary or unsupported. Proceeding despite unresolved scientific uncertainty and incomplete long-term data is, by definition, arbitrary.

This is not theoretical. Once released, these organisms cannot be contained. The risk is permanent.

The burden is not on the public to prove harm after the fact—the burden is on the State to prove safety **before** acting.

Hawai‘i law is clear:

Protect first. Experiment never—especially when the consequences cannot be undone.

I respectfully urge you to remove or deny all funding in HB1800 related to mosquito release programs.

Mahalo

Tammy Ash Perkins

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/25/2026 6:33:14 PM
Testimony for WAM on 3/30/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Johnnie-Mae L. Perry	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I, Johnnie-Mae L. Perry, comment

SOH CANNOT DEPEND ON FEDERAL FUNDS WITH ALL THE UNCERTAINTY WITH THE CURRENT ADMININSTRATION! AS A RESULT ALL ELECTED OFFICIAL STARTING AT THE TOP TO THE CITY LEVEL EVERYONE IN THEIR INDIVIDUAL ROLE IS FISCAL RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SUSTAINBILITY FOR THE SOH AND INDIVIDUAL COUNTIES! LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE RECENT KONA LOW DEVASTATION.

1800 HB RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET.

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/25/2026 6:57:57 PM
Testimony for WAM on 3/30/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Samuel Gridley	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair and Members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee,

I oppose the use of state budget funds through HB1800 for the release of Wolbachia-infected or lab-altered mosquitoes on any Hawaiian island.

These releases are irreversible. Hawai'i's history is full of cautionary tales — from the mongoose introduction that decimated native birds to countless other biocontrol efforts gone wrong — all because we introduced foreign species into our isolated ecosystems without fully understanding the consequences.

We should not repeat this pattern with millions of experimental mosquitoes released into our conservation areas and, potentially, our neighborhoods. The $3.2 million in requested funding should go toward conservation methods that can be controlled and reversed if problems arise.

Please vote against funding these mosquito release programs.

Mahalo,
Samuel Gridley

Palolo Valley

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/25/2026 7:02:31 PM
Testimony for WAM on 3/30/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Donna Grabow	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Please oppose the state funding for releasing millions of mosquitoes in Kauai and Maui.

The DLRN and Dept. of Agriculture have been touring the island with as sleek campaign that lab-bred mosquitoes will save the birds from,.. extinction. Come on.

There has never been any evidence that this costly experiment of releasing mosquitoes, has ever halped birds.
The Governor's "Green Fee" request includes $1.6 million in general funds for 2027 for the "Endangered Forest Bird Mosquito Abatement Project and an

additional $1.6 million “to support the protection and recovery of Hawaii’s native birds from mosquito-born avian malaria and other existential threats.”

Sincerely,
Donna Grabow, Hilo

VIDEO about the mosquito release: https://rumble.com/v769wrw-help-stop-injected-mosquito-release-on-hawaii-all-islands-in-danger.html

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/25/2026 7:54:53 PM
Testimony for WAM on 3/30/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
juhl rayne	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello!!!

these mosquitos are a BAD idea... has no one learned from EVERYTHING else that has ever been introduced to the islands? these mosquito releases are DANGEROUS and irreversible..... DO NOT do this.... don't you want to live here?

mahalo,

Juhl Rayne

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/26/2026 9:06:09 AM
Testimony for WAM on 3/30/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anne-Marie Cooper	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a constituent of Hawai'i, I am declaring that I do not support those Bill due to the unknown adverse impact it could have on individuals or other animals alike. There is not enough data and empirical evidence to prove that this proposed solution will not harm others.

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/26/2026 9:44:43 AM
Testimony for WAM on 3/30/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan Horie	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please do NOT fund further release of Wolbachia-bacteria infected mosquitoes in effort to protect native bird species from avian malaria. The releases that have been made so far have not been monitored for effectiveness. The stated protocol for the releases has not been followed. The allowable margin of error in creating the lab alteration negates the stated goal of sterilization of existing species. In fact, similar releases in Brazil have only resulted in making the native mosquito population there more robust. This is criminally careless and detrimental to the health and safety of all island life. PLEASE DO NOT FURTHER FUND THIS DANGEROUS EXPERIMENT.

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/26/2026 10:00:43 AM
Testimony for WAM on 3/30/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kevin Cooper	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Having 30 years of experience in search and rescue with the US Coast Guard, I am in support of an appropriation to establish a *Hawai‘i State Search and Rescue Coordinator* *to evaluate SAR training and capabilities, develop a state SAR framework, mutual aid system, and provide incident related data and information.*

This position is essential to protection of the residents and visitors to our state.

A Hawaii State SAR Coordinator will help us improve preparedness and responses to the the unique challenges of our state and bring cohesion to the rescue community across our strong and independent islands and counties. They must work closely with the Federal Search and Rescue Coordinator to ensure Hawaii receives all available support from the federal government.

The value of a position like this has been demonstrated in nearly all other states and would help make best use of the rescue resouces already on hand in the state, while also identifying lifesaving improvements.

Thank you.

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/26/2026 12:51:04 PM
Testimony for WAM on 3/30/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michal Carrillo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I'm opposed to Executive Budget funding through HB1800 for programs and projects that include the release of *Wolbachia*-bacteria-infected mosquitoes and/or lab-altered mosquitoes of any kind on any island. These mosquito releases are dangerous and irreversible, and the invasive lab mosquitoes could have harmful impacts to the health of these islands now and for many years to come. Please do not use our home as a test ground for this reckless activity! I strongly OPPOSE!

Mahalo

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/26/2026 1:07:32 PM
Testimony for WAM on 3/30/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Aloha McGuffie	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee,

I write in **strong support** of HB1800 HD1 as the State's primary vehicle for translating climate and resilience priorities into implemented outcomes through funding, staffing, and capital improvement investments, particularly those supported by the Green Fee.

The need for coordinated implementation capacity was clearly identified at the September 2025 Symposium for Climate Resilience**,** organized by the KISCA Hui. Governor Josh Green delivered the keynote, followed by native reforestation practitioners, small farmers, nonprofit organizations, and community partners, who emphasized the importance of building climate-resilient communities in collaboration with regional and state plans with aloha.

As a KISCA Hui facilitator and Steering Committee member helping to draft the Community Climate Mandate for East Oʻahu (CCM-EO), I view this bill as essential implementation infrastructure. The CCM-EO will be presented to the six East Oʻahu Neighborhood Boards—Pālolo, Kaimukī, Waiʻalae-Kāhala, Kuliʻouʻou-Kalani, Hawaiʻi Kai, and Waimānalo—between April and July; input from these meetings will be incorporated into the draft to prioritize each community's unique climate resilience needs and guide coordinated engagement with City & County and State agencies. This process reflects growing regional coordination that HB1800 can support through aligned State capacity and resources.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Committee to **PASS HB1800 HD1** and continue prioritizing investments that enable effective, community-aligned implementation of Hawaiʻi's climate resilience goals.

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

Aloha

Aloha McGuffie

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/26/2026 3:20:38 PM
Testimony for WAM on 3/30/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
marta greenleaf	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am opposed to Executive Funding through HB1800 for any programs and projects that include the release of Wolbachia-bacteria-infected mosquitoes and/or lab altered mosquitoes of any kind on any island. Releasing these mosquitoes is dangerous and irreversible. Also, these invasive releases could have harmful consequences to the health of these islands for many years to come. The state can research other ways to help our native birds that won't cause an even bigger detriment to our land, waters, plants, animals and humans. We are continuing to use remedies that are not natural and can cause so much more harm than good. Please work toward natural solutions to the threats rather than a "fix" that can harm others.

Sincerely,

Marta Greenleaf

Maui

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/26/2026 3:23:55 PM
Testimony for WAM on 3/30/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Don Najita	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am deeply opposed to Executive Budget funding through HB1800 for programs and projects that include the release of *Wolbachia*-bacteria-infected mosquitoes and/or lab-altered mosquitoes of any kind on any island. These lab-altered mosquito projects have not been adequately tested to demonstrate safety for humans or the larger ecosystem. Scientific debate has been stifled so that the public has a poor understanding of what is being planned and implemented. Further, these mosquito releases are irreversible, and the invasive lab mosquitoes may bring harmful impacts to the health of the aina for generations to come. Serious reconsideration of these programs and the potential effects are urgently needed.

Dale J. Parsons, Jr

PO Box 53
Hana, Hawaii 96713

Testimony in Opposition to Funding for Mosquito Release Experiments

Relating to HB1800 – Funding for Mosquito Release Experiments

HB1800 includes appropriations that support continued mosquito release experiments on Maui and Kauaʻi as part of endangered species protection and forest health management.

I am opposed to Executive Budget funding through HB1800 for programs and projects that include the release of Wolbachia-bacteria-infected mosquitoes and/or lab-altered mosquitoes of any kind on any island.

These appropriations should be denied for the following reasons:

1. HB1800 Funds an Irreversible Biological Intervention Without Defined Safeguards

HB1800 authorizes General Funds and special funds for an open-ended biological intervention involving the aerial release of lab-altered mosquitoes into native forest ecosystems. Once released, these organisms cannot be recalled, yet the budget provides no exit criteria, contingency funding, or liability framework should ecological harm occur.

Funding irreversible actions without defined safeguards is inconsistent with prudent fiscal oversight.

2. This is an Irreversible Ecological Risk in a Fragile Island System

Hawaiʻi's ecosystems are uniquely vulnerable to unintended consequences because they evolved in isolation. Introducing mass-reared, lab-altered mosquitoes (even non-biting males) creates ecological risks that cannot be recalled or reversed once released.

Incompatible Insect Technique relies on Wolbachia bacteria to suppress reproduction, but long-term ecosystem effects in Hawaiʻi remain unproven, especially in complex forest food webs.

Independent scientists have warned that horizontal transfer of Wolbachia or accidental release of fertile females could permanently alter mosquito populations rather than suppress them.

3. The Risk of Accelerated Bacterial Growth in Phosphate-Limited Watersheds Has Not Been Addressed

Hawai‘i’s native forest watersheds are nutrient-limited systems, particularly constrained by phosphorus availability. Introducing large numbers of mosquitoes, whether sterile or infected with Wolbachia, adds biological material, microbial symbionts, and nutrient inputs into ecosystems that evolved under extreme nutrient scarcity.

Wolbachia is known to alter microbial dynamics and can increase bacterial biomass under certain environmental conditions.

In phosphate-limited watersheds, even small nutrient pulses can trigger disproportionate microbial growth, disrupting stream chemistry, biofilms, and downstream reef systems.

It has not been demonstrated that mosquito releases will not accelerate bacterial proliferation in forest soils, leaf litter, or surface waters—nor has it committed to long-term microbial monitoring.

HB1800 provides funding for mosquito production and release without requiring watershed-level nutrient impact analysis, despite Hawai‘i’s well-documented sensitivity to microbial imbalance and eutrophication.

4. There Are Downstream Implications for Water Quality and Reef Health

Native forest watersheds directly feed nearshore marine ecosystems. Increased bacterial loads or altered microbial communities can:

- Reduce dissolved oxygen in streams
- Increase pathogen persistence
- Contribute to coral stress and reef degradation downstream

State funding should not support biological interventions that risk cascading impacts from forest to reef without comprehensive, peer-reviewed safeguards.

5. Experimental Activities Are Funded as Ongoing Operations

HB1800 treats this activity as a recurring operational expense rather than a time-limited research pilot, committing the State to indefinite future costs without demonstrated success or completion benchmarks.

6. HB1800 Lacks Evidence of Cost-Effectiveness

The Executive Budget prioritizes funding for mosquito production, aerial dispersal, monitoring, and program administration without peer-reviewed evidence that these expenditures will measurably reduce avian malaria or stabilize native bird populations in

Hawai‘i. Appropriations under HB1800 should be based on demonstrated outcomes, not speculative benefits.

7. Opportunity Cost to Proven Conservation Programs
Every dollar appropriated under HB1800 for mosquito release activities is unavailable for habitat restoration, predator control, fencing, captive breeding, and disease-resistant bird research—programs with established conservation returns. The budget does not justify prioritizing experimental mosquito releases over these proven strategies.

8. Insufficient Public Process for State-Funded Aerial Releases
HB1800 advances funding for helicopter-based dispersal over public lands and watersheds without evidence of broad, informed community consent. State funds should not support projects that proceed ahead of public understanding and acceptance, particularly when impacts are localized but decisions are centralized.

9. Budget Recommendation for HB1800

- Remove or suspend appropriations related to mosquito release activities.
- Redirect funding to proven conservation measures with measurable outcomes.
- Require independent scientific review and public reporting prior to any future funding request.
- Condition any reconsideration of funding on clear exit criteria, cost caps, and community consent benchmarks.

Conclusion

HB1800 asks the Legislature to underwrite an indefinite, high-risk biological experiment in one of the world’s most fragile ecosystems. Fiscal prudence, ecological responsibility, and public accountability all argue against continued funding at this time.

As stated above, I am opposed to Executive Budget funding through HB1800 for programs and projects that include the release of Wolbachia-bacteria-infected mosquitoes and/or lab-altered mosquitoes of any kind on any island.

Mahalo,
Dale Parsons
Hana

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/26/2026 4:33:06 PM
Testimony for WAM on 3/30/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Deborah Sevy	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It has not been proven safe to release into hawaii's fragile ecosystem the wolbachia infected mosquito. It goes against God and nature and noone knows what chain reaction may occur from this dangerous addition to nature. I suggest we trust nature not man.

Please consider my grave concerns!

Mahaloa and Aloha!

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/26/2026 5:06:20 PM
Testimony for WAM on 3/30/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mr. & Mrs. O'Neill	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

"**I'm opposed to Executive Budget funding through HB1800 for programs and projects that include the release of *Wolbachia*-bacteria-infected mosquitoes and/or lab-altered mosquitoes of any kind on any island. These mosquito releases are dangerous and irreversible, and the invasive lab mosquitoes could have harmful impacts to the health of these islands now and for many years to come.**"

I strongly oppose any type of funding for these untested mosquitoes.

Please stop this dangerous experiment. Our health is more important.

Regards, Steve and Linda O'Neill

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/26/2026 5:27:42 PM
Testimony for WAM on 3/30/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carrie Ostroski	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

The Green Fee project portfolio consists of 75 high-impact, ready-to-deliver projects that were carefully selected by the very qualified Advisory Council. Together, these projects address climate hazards and risks holistically with a broad range of complementary ahd multi-beneficial approaches.

To proactively mitigate the otherwise unmanageable costs and potential devastation of future disasters, Hawai‘i needs to:

- **Strengthen resilience** to climate-driven disasters immediately.
- **Protect critical ecosystems** that serve as our first line of defense.
- **Sustain natural and cultural resources** that Hawai‘i’s communities and visitor economy depend on.

I know and engage with many of the vital projects that the portfolio supports, and I am highly confident in the Advisory Council's expertise. Community agreements with state agencies, such as DLNR, will move projects forward in an accountable way with stewardship and the ability to leverage funds and resources.

Please support the Green Fee project portfolio in HB1800.

Mahalo nui,

Carrie Ostroski, Waikoloa, cwostroski@gmail.com

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/26/2026 6:18:02 PM
Testimony for WAM on 3/30/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joanna Weber	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

ALOHA

ALOHA,

I am opposed to Executive Budget funding through HB1800 for programs and projects which include the release of *Wolbachia*-bacteria-infected mosquitoes and/or lab-altered mosquitoes of any kind on any island. These mosquito releases are dangerous and irreversible, and the invasive lab-mosquitoes could have harmful impacts to the health of these islands - nature and all life - now and for many years to come.

ALOHA, JOANNA WEBER

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/26/2026 9:04:31 PM
Testimony for WAM on 3/30/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Vernelle Oku	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm opposed to Executive Budget funding through HB1800 for programs and projects that include the release of *Wolbachia*-bacteria-infected mosquitoes and/or lab-altered mosquitoes of any kind on any island. These mosquito releases are dangerous and irreversible, and the invasive lab mosquitoes could have harmful impacts to the health of these islands now and for many years to come.

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/27/2026 9:26:48 AM
Testimony for WAM on 3/30/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Steve LaFleur	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Stop playing God!!! Releasing unproven GMO modified mosquitoes is wrongheaded!!

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/27/2026 11:21:56 AM
Testimony for WAM on 3/30/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rebecca Most	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support of this bill to ensure the Green Fee is appropriately distributed to support natural and cultural resource management in Hawaii, and that the full funding is allocated as recommended by the Green Fee council. The Council did not simply compile a wish list; they reviewed more than 500 public project ideas and over 100 formal proposals from state departments, representing more than $2 billion in requests for approximately $100 million in available Year 1 funding. Projects were selected based on their ability to address both current and emerging environmental challenges facing Hawai‘i’s communities. Many of Hawai‘i’s stewardship efforts are led by small, community-based groups. Stable Green Fee funding can empower these groups with multi-year support, workforce training and project continuity.

Please pass this bill to ensure the funding is used as it was intended, and that community groups get the support they need to do the work on the ground.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support.

Rebecca Most

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means (WAM)

Representative Chris Todd, Chair
Representative Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance (FIN)

RE: **IN SUPPORT of GIA funding for Catholic Charities Hawaii/ Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center**

Please support GIA funding in the amount of **$301,272 for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center**, a program of Catholic Charities Hawaii.

Why is funding for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center important to me:

SEE BACK

Please support the Grant-in-Aid request of Catholic Charities Hawaii for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, so that many seniors, like me, can continue to maintain good health and contribute to our community. Mahalo.

My Name: Ken Nakagawa
PLEASE PRINT

My City & Zip Code: Honolulu 96825

The Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center (Center) has been a source of enjoyment, active engagement, and commeradarie for myself and fellow classmates. Even to the many members that I occasionally pass by on our way to a class, informational lecture, or holiday event, I see that they are all quite happy chatting with their friends, avidly listening to a program in a special holiday luncheon and asking pertinent, thought-provoking questions to a guest medical specialist from a school or outside social service agency.

The Center provides all this and more. It serves as a place of refuge for those members whose life has undergone major change. Some members' families and community roles have transformed drastically as their children leave the home, their former work colleagues fade away into retirement and their spouse and friends die leaving them with the loss of their primary group and its social functions. At this dangerous juncture in late life the shift from the role of independent adult to dependent adult is lurking closely in the shadows for many who lack a support system.

Here then, is where the Center comes in and does its greatest good. For example, anyone can join any of the center's popular ethnic clubs and partake in a myriad of social activities. Lonely adults on the cusp of losing their precious independence can now find social engagement, support, and simple but needed companionship.

I think that you will agree that the Center provides two (2) very important features to any senior: companionship and caring.

Therefore, it is imperative that this GIA be funded completely. Please give the Center the needed tools so its members can fulfill their stubborn desire to live their remaining lives independently.

The SOH has always wisely supported youth programs like the YMCA, A+, Afterschool All-Stars, etc. with generous GIAs. Think of the Center as the "Boys and Girls Club for Makule" with one significant caveat; we are standing at the other end of the human lifecycle. Mahalo.

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means (WAM)

Representative Chris Todd, Chair
Representative Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance (FIN)

RE: IN SUPPORT of GIA funding for Catholic Charities Hawaii/ Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center

Please support GIA funding in the amount of **$301,272 for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center**, a program of Catholic Charities Hawaii.

Why is funding for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center important to me:

LMPSC is a wonderful, safe, nuturing space for me and other seniors. They offer so ~~much~~ many exciting events, classes, seminars, etc to help keep us seniors active and sharp!

They function with a mere handful of paid staff who are dedicated to serving the seniors in the community. Their efforts are reinforced by the wonderful and equally dedicated volunteers who are goddesses to us!

Please support the Grant-in-Aid request of Catholic Charities Hawaii for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, so that many seniors, like me, can continue to maintain good health and contribute to our community. Mahalo.

My Name: Kimiko Ishiki
PLEASE PRINT

My City & Zip Code: Honolulu 96813

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means (WAM)

Representative Chris Todd, Chair
Representative Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance (FIN)

RE: IN SUPPORT of GIA funding for Catholic Charities Hawaii/ Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center

Please support GIA funding in the amount of **$301,272 for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center**, a program of Catholic Charities Hawaii.

Why is funding for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center important to our community:
Without the center - seniors would have no where to go. They would stay home and go downhill. They need socialization and purpose.

Please support the Grant-in-Aid request of Catholic Charities Hawaii for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, so that our *kupuna* can continue to maintain good health and contribute to our community. Mahalo.

My Name: Betty Ann Schaefer
PLEASE PRINT

My City & Zip Code: Kaneohe, 96744

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means (WAM)

Representative Chris Todd, Chair
Representative Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance (FIN)

RE: IN SUPPORT of GIA funding for Catholic Charities Hawaii/ Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center

Please support GIA funding in the amount of **$301,272 for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center**, a program of Catholic Charities Hawaii.

Why is funding for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center important to our community:

As a community patner, we stiong belive funding the Lanika Multi-Pupose Senior Center is vital to the stength and wellbeing of our community. The center is more than a building it's a saje, welcoming space where seniors find connection Funding the center is an investment in dignity, connection, and care for our elders. It is a lifeline where seniors find support, belonging, and essential services. The fundi not just supporting a center, it's strengthening the heart of our communit

Please support the Grant-in-Aid request of Catholic Charities Hawaii for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, so that our *kupuna* can continue to maintain good health and contribute to our community. Mahalo.

My Name: Lanh Nguyen
PLEASE PRINT

My City & Zip Code: Honolulu, HI 96822

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means (WAM)

Representative Chris Todd, Chair
Representative Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance (FIN)

RE: IN SUPPORT of GIA funding for Catholic Charities Hawaii/ Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center

Please support GIA funding in the amount of **$301,272 for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center**, a program of Catholic Charities Hawaii.

Why is funding for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center important to me:

I became a member of the Lanakila Senior Center last year, and it has quickly become a most valuable part of my life. It is easy for seniors to become isolated, and the Lanakila Center not only provides opportunities for learning and new experiences, the friendships and camaraderie we experience are priceless. Please provide support for this needed center.

Please support the Grant-in-Aid request of Catholic Charities Hawaii for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, so that many seniors, like me, can continue to maintain good health and contribute to our community. Mahalo.

My Name: Donna Makishima
PLEASE PRINT

My City & Zip Code: Honolulu 96821

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means (WAM)

Representative Chris Todd, Chair
Representative Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance (FIN)

RE: IN SUPPORT of GIA funding for Catholic Charities Hawaii/ Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center

Please support GIA funding in the amount of **$301,272 for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center**, a program of Catholic Charities Hawaii.

Why is funding for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center important to our community:

Lanakila's Senior Center is theeeee Center for Seniors to learn, play, create and serve others. — AI's will never replace us so there! Culture and traditions, may fade away but will never die!



Please support the Grant-in-Aid request of Catholic Charities Hawaii for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, so that our *kupuna* can continue to maintain good health and contribute to our community. Mahalo.

My Name: Elouise Frank ("Puna" at Lanakila)
PLEASE PRINT

My City & Zip Code: Hon Hi 96817

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means (WAM)

Representative Chris Todd, Chair
Representative Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance (FIN)

RE: IN SUPPORT of GIA funding for Catholic Charities Hawaii/ Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center

Please support GIA funding in the amount of **$301,272 for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center**, a program of Catholic Charities Hawaii.

Why is funding for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center important to our community:

Because the Seniors, of which I'm proud of and be is an important sector @ Lanakila Multi-purpose Senior Center. Alleuia!!!

Please support the Grant-in-Aid request of Catholic Charities Hawaii for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, so that our *kupuna* can continue to maintain good health and contribute to our community. Mahalo.

My Name: ROLAND MANUEL
PLEASE PRINT

My City & Zip Code: HONOLULU 96813

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means (WAM)

Representative Chris Todd, Chair
Representative Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance (FIN)

RE: IN SUPPORT of GIA funding for Catholic Charities Hawaii/ Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center

Please support GIA funding in the amount of **$301,272 for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center**, a program of Catholic Charities Hawaii.

Why is funding for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center important to me:

Because it enables Lanakila to offer programs, activities & events that bring seniors together, which combats isolation and loneliness, and helps seniors to defy aging by keeping their minds, bodies, and spirits healthy and engaged. The Lanakila Senior Center is also a place where seniors can find opportunities to volunteer and serve the community.

Please support the Grant-in-Aid request of Catholic Charities Hawaii for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, so that many seniors, like me, can continue to maintain good health and contribute to our community. Mahalo.

My Name: LINDA CHIU
PLEASE PRINT

My City & Zip Code: AIEA 96701

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means (WAM)

Representative Chris Todd, Chair
Representative Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance (FIN)

RE: IN SUPPORT of GIA funding for Catholic Charities Hawaii/ Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center

Please support GIA funding in the amount of **$301,272 for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center**, a program of Catholic Charities Hawaii.

Why is funding for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center important to me:

LMPSC has renewed my interest in life itself! Having experienced many surgeries, my movements were very limited + kept me from the life I had prior to the surgeries. I was invited to attend Yenchosa Club that has opened the Okinawan Culture + lifestyles to me. Aleana Kawaguchi Sensei gracefully accepted me to her dance class. Besides learning the dances, it has allowed me to be more flexiable + balanced on my feet. I have found purpose in my life again!

Please support the Grant-in-Aid request of Catholic Charities Hawaii for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, so that many seniors, like me, can continue to maintain good health and contribute to our community. Mahalo.

My Name: Aleane Takeuchi
PLEASE PRINT

Mahalo!

My City & Zip Code: Hon., Hi 96818

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means (WAM)

Representative Chris Todd, Chair
Representative Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance (FIN)

RE: IN SUPPORT of GIA funding for Catholic Charities Hawaii/ Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center

Please support GIA funding in the amount of **$301,272 for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center**, a program of Catholic Charities Hawaii.

Why is funding for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center important to me:
Lanakila M/P Senior Center
allows us to meet other Seniors
to converse with + share ideas + culture
The Okinawa Club teaches us to
volunteer + keep our spirit high.
Our culture is shared w/ others
Once a week meeting helps us to
keep our minds sharp + alert.

Please support the Grant-in-Aid request of Catholic Charities Hawaii for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, so that many seniors, like me, can continue to maintain good health and contribute to our community. Mahalo.

My Name: Chieko Tokuda CHIEKO TOKUDA
PLEASE PRINT

My City & Zip Code: Honolulu, 96819

Thank you to Susie + volunteers
for their work making us happy,
comfortable + and staying young

#6

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means (WAM)

Representative Chris Todd, Chair
Representative Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance (FIN)

RE: IN SUPPORT of GIA funding for Catholic Charities Hawaii/ Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center

Please support GIA funding in the amount of **$301,272 for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center**, a program of Catholic Charities Hawaii.

Why is funding for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center important to me:

To meet friends and talk a lot of conversation. and activitys. classes, help me memory.

Please support the Grant-in-Aid request of Catholic Charities Hawaii for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, so that many seniors, like me, can continue to maintain good health and contribute to our community. Mahalo.

My Name: YASUKO MIYAZAWA
PLEASE PRINT

My City & Zip Code: HON 96816

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means (WAM)

Representative Chris Todd, Chair
Representative Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance (FIN)

RE: IN SUPPORT of GIA funding for Catholic Charities Hawaii/ Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center

Please support GIA funding in the amount of **$301,272 for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center**, a program of Catholic Charities Hawaii.

Why is funding for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center important to me:

- ENJOY LMPSC : YOGA + OKINAWA DANCE
- I STAY HEALTHY + HELPS MY BRAIN
- GOOD TO MEET MY FRIENDS

Please support the Grant-in-Aid request of Catholic Charities Hawaii for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, so that many seniors, like me, can continue to maintain good health and contribute to our community. Mahalo.

My Name: Takashi - Goya
PLEASE PRINT

My City & Zip Code: Honolulu, 96822

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means (WAM)

Representative Chris Todd, Chair
Representative Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance (FIN)

RE: IN SUPPORT of GIA funding for Catholic Charities Hawaii/ Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center

Please support GIA funding in the amount of **$301,272 for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center**, a program of Catholic Charities Hawaii.

Why is funding for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center important to me:

- I can catch a ride to participate in ACTIVITIES
- THE ACTIVITY MAKES ME HAVE A CLEAR MIND
- EXERCISE MAKES ME VERY HEALTHY
- MEET FRIENDS & GATHER

Please support the Grant-in-Aid request of Catholic Charities Hawaii for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, so that many seniors, like me, can continue to maintain good health and contribute to our community. Mahalo.

My Name: Yaeko Miyahira
PLEASE PRINT

My City & Zip Code: Honolulu, 96819

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means (WAM)

Representative Chris Todd, Chair
Representative Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance (FIN)

RE: IN SUPPORT of GIA funding for Catholic Charities Hawaii/ Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center

Please support GIA funding in the amount of **$301,272 for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center**, a program of Catholic Charities Hawaii.

Why is funding for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center important to me:

Lanakila Multi-purpose Senior Center is Importance For Me Because:
Meeting People - Tours
Activities to Enroll & Volunteer w/ T-Lea
KEEP my Memory (Espcially dancing Class Sinc
you have to Remember
Dance Steps

Please support the Grant-in-Aid request of Catholic Charities Hawaii for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, so that many seniors, like me, can continue to maintain good health and contribute to our community. Mahalo.

My Name: Nobuko Oshiro
PLEASE PRINT

My City & Zip Code: Mililani, Hi 96789

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means (WAM)

Representative Chris Todd, Chair
Representative Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance (FIN)

RE: IN SUPPORT of GIA funding for Catholic Charities Hawaii/ Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center

Please support GIA funding in the amount of **$301,272 for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center**, a program of Catholic Charities Hawaii.

Why is funding for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center important to me:

- she makes a lot of friends and associates with the group - social interaction
- many activities to engage in otherwise she would be home just reading
- able to keep up communicating in Japanese
- important part of daily life

Please support the Grant-in-Aid request of Catholic Charities Hawaii for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, so that many seniors, like me, can continue to maintain good health and contribute to our community. Mahalo.

My Name: Naomi K. Badamo
PLEASE PRINT

My City & Zip Code: Honolulu 96819

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means (WAM)

Representative Chris Todd, Chair
Representative Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance (FIN)

RE: IN SUPPORT of GIA funding for Catholic Charities Hawaii/ Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center

Please support GIA funding in the amount of **$301,272 for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center**, a program of Catholic Charities Hawaii.

Why is funding for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center important to me:

It's a place to meet friends, be active, learning about healthy living and safety, doing service activities like volunteering, and seeing new places when you go on tours.

Please support the Grant-in-Aid request of Catholic Charities Hawaii for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, so that many seniors, like me, can continue to maintain good health and contribute to our community. Mahalo.

My Name: Sharon Kim
PLEASE PRINT

My City & Zip Code: Honolulu 96819

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means (WAM)

Representative Chris Todd, Chair
Representative Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance (FIN)

RE: IN SUPPORT of GIA funding for Catholic Charities Hawaii/ Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center

Please support GIA funding in the amount of **$301,272 for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center**, a program of Catholic Charities Hawaii.

Why is funding for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center important to me:

Funding is important for the senior community.
>> The center provides a safe environment for learning, exercise programs, and socializing.
>> The center provides a means for seniors to attend community events providing transportation or gathering with friends that aren't always possible without a senior center. For seniors living alone this service is a wonderful activity
>> The center provides a means to keep seniors engaged with other peop

Please support the Grant-in-Aid request of Catholic Charities Hawaii for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, so that many seniors, like me, can continue to maintain good health and contribute to our community. Mahalo.

My Name: Lorelei Fukuda
PLEASE PRINT

My City & Zip Code: Honolulu 96817

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means (WAM)

Representative Chris Todd, Chair
Representative Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance (FIN)

RE: IN SUPPORT of GIA funding for Catholic Charities Hawaii/
Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center

Please support GIA funding in the amount of **$301,272 for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center**, a program of Catholic Charities Hawaii.

Why is funding for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center important to me:
gathering place, learn new things, meet people

Please support the Grant-in-Aid request of Catholic Charities Hawaii for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, so that many seniors, like me, can continue to maintain good health and contribute to our community. Mahalo.

My Name: Faith Muraoka
PLEASE PRINT

My City & Zip Code: Hon, 96824

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means (WAM)

Representative Chris Todd, Chair
Representative Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance (FIN)

RE: IN SUPPORT of GIA funding for Catholic Charities Hawaii/ Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center

Please support GIA funding in the amount of **$301,272 for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center**, a program of Catholic Charities Hawaii.

Why is funding for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center important to me:

This is a ~~great~~ great place for kupuna to come to & Socialize

Please support the Grant-in-Aid request of Catholic Charities Hawaii for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, so that many seniors, like me, can continue to maintain good health and contribute to our community. Mahalo.

My Name: Phil Nyeha
PLEASE PRINT

My City & Zip Code: Honolulu 96813

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means (WAM)

Representative Chris Todd, Chair
Representative Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance (FIN)

RE: IN SUPPORT of GIA funding for Catholic Charities Hawaii/
Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center

Please support GIA funding in the amount of **$301,272 for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center**, a program of Catholic Charities Hawaii.

Why is funding for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center important to me:

Benefits ONC Club Stay Healthy

Please support the Grant-in-Aid request of Catholic Charities Hawaii for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, so that many seniors, like me, can continue to maintain good health and contribute to our community. Mahalo.

My Name: Jane Fujii
PLEASE PRINT

My City & Zip Code: 96816

TO: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means (WAM)

Representative Chris Todd, Chair
Representative Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance (FIN)

RE: IN SUPPORT of GIA funding for Catholic Charities Hawaii/ Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center

Please support GIA funding in the amount of **$301,272 for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center**, a program of Catholic Charities Hawaii.

Why is funding for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center important to me:

We are retired seniors and members of Lanakila Multipurpose Senior Center (center), and submit this testimony in strong support of GIA Funding for ccharities which provides Grant in Aid funding for the center.

We look forward every week to playing pickleball at the senior center. The movement, coordination, reaction time, and ongoing challenge of learning and improving at a new sport all contribute to our health, fitness, and mental sharpness as we age, and our relationship as a couple.

We also greatly value how our participation with the center has enriched

(continued on reverse →)

Please support the Grant-in-Aid request of Catholic Charities Hawaii for Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center, so that many seniors, like me, can continue to maintain good health and contribute to our community. Mahalo.

My Name: Harvey Arkin + Laura Sasaki
PLEASE PRINT

My City & Zip Code: Hon. Hi 96822

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/27/2026 6:25:54 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dr Marion Ceruti	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair; Senator Sharon Moriwaki, Vice Chair; and all Members of the WAM Committee.

My name is Dr. Marion Ceruti and I am a voting resident of West Maui.
I strongly support HB 1800, the Green Fee bill.

Please, kokua, vote YES on the senate version of HB 1800. It is very important to fund the entire Green-Fee package. Our economic stability and home safety depends on stopping the beach erosion going on at Kahana Bay. Erosion is a significant environmental threat and must be mitigated. HB1800 will help to address that.

Green-fee funding will help to support our community in a way that individuals cannot do alone. Working together, we have formed a hui to implement the most technically sound way to prevent beach erosion, but we must finalize the environmental impact study as a prerequisite to achieve our goal. Green-fee funding will help us do that.

Disaster prevention is much more economical than disaster recovery after something awful has happened and many homes have been lost. Help us to preserve our homes in the most cost-effective manner, thus preventing the next catastrophe.

Mahalo in advance for voting YES on HB 1800.

The Honorable Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
The Honorable Senator Sharon Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

RE: Strong Support for HB1800 HD1 – Relating to the State Budget

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Sarah Hathaway, and I am the Vice Chair of the West Hawai'i Regional Board. I strongly support HB1800 HD1 and its appropriation for the development of a new outpatient care center in Kona.

West Hawai'i continues to face serious challenges related to health care capacity, particularly workforce shortages, recruitment and retention, and the increasing demand driven by population growth. These challenges directly affect access to timely care and place significant strain on existing providers. My perspective comes from practicing Family Medicine for 25 years on the mainland, and perceiving a dire shortage of Primary Care doctors on this island. I've been working on recruiting and retaining all types of health care workers and creating an environment conducive to this project with a new hospital.

The outpatient care center proposed in this bill represents a critical investment in health care workforce development. It will create new employment opportunities, support the recruitment and retention of physicians and health care professionals, and provide a modern setting for integrated outpatient services. Strengthening our health care workforce is essential to improving patient access, reducing burnout among providers, and ensuring long-term system sustainability.

Importantly, this project also advances The Queen's Health Systems' commitment to construct a new hospital adjacent to the outpatient center in the future, further reinforcing a long-term vision for health care infrastructure and workforce growth in West Hawai'i.

I respectfully urge the committee to support HB1800 HD1 and prioritize investments that build a strong, sustainable health care workforce for our community.

Mahalo for your leadership and consideration.

Sincerely,
Sarah Hathaway, MD
Vice Chair, West Hawaii Regional Board

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/28/2026 1:01:29 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rugmini Shah	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

HB1800

SUPPORT

Please find below reasons for supporting HB 1800 for the use of GREEN FEE funds.

Green fee was established to to protect and promote the islands from natural and enviornmental tragedies.It is paid for by the visitors.

One of the major attractions in Hawaii for the visitors is the beaches.

Therefore beach restorationand mitigation of beach erosionneeds to be a major project for the use of Green Fee funds.

I have been a regular visitor and part time resident of Hawaiin island for the past 50 years, and have been watching the shrinking of the islands from beach erosion.

The Green Fee advisory council after diligent evaluation of many projects considered for funding included mitigation of beach erosion of beaches in more than one island.

One such project is allocation of $2million to Hahana and Kapalua beaches. WE strongly support and request your consideration of funding this project in 2026 . Water and ocean waves are hitting the lawns as well as morethan one building of 10 resorts at Kahana Bay. While the funding is limited it will enable the resorts to begin beach restoration enabling the visitors to get to the beach over the sand bags.

If nothing is done, it is very well possible for one or more of the multistory resorts to fall ino the ocean, resulting in loss of lives as well as damage to the waters resulting in embarassment to the state of Hawaii, a State which was the first to establish Green Fee funds to protect every one from environmenta disaters.

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/28/2026 1:10:46 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mala Arkin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To the Honorable Members of the Committee on Ways and Means:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony. I write in strong support of House Bill 1800, HD1 and the establishment of an American Sign Language Interpreter Training Program (ITP) at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa.

Hawai‘i urgently needs a local pipeline to train qualified interpreters. Interpreter education must be grounded in place, culture, and community, and that grounding cannot be replicated through programs located elsewhere. While interpreters who relocate from the mainland often bring valuable experience, many face a steep learning curve when working in Hawai‘i’s unique linguistic and cultural environment, and a significant number ultimately return to the mainland. In recent years, this pattern—combined with affordability challenges—has further deepened the statewide interpreter shortage.

The Americans with Disabilities Act requires the provision of qualified interpreters, and that qualification does not happen quickly. Becoming a competent professional interpreter requires years of formal education, mentored practice, and real-world experience. Without an in-state training program, Hawai‘i remains dependent on an increasingly unstable and insufficient workforce pipeline.

Establishing an Interpreter Training Program at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa is a necessary and forward-looking step to build and sustain a local, qualified interpreting workforce. This program will help ensure consistent access to communication for Deaf, DeafBlind, hard of hearing, and DeafDisabled people across the state, while also creating meaningful educational and career pathways for Hawai‘i residents.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge your support of House Bill 1800, HD1.

Respectfully submitted,

Māla Arkin

Certified Sign Language Interpreter

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/28/2026 1:46:52 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Amy Sophiella	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm STRONGLY opposed to Executive Budget funding through HB1800 for programs and projects that include the release of *Wolbachia*-bacteria-infected mosquitoes and/or lab-altered mosquitoes of any kind on any island. These mosquito releases are dangerous and irreversible, and the invasive lab mosquitoes could have harmful impacts to the health of these islands now and for many years to come, not to mention the animals and humans who will be negatively effected. the fact that you are even considering this measure deeply disturbs me. Nature is perfect and has its own evolution. we have seen so many issues from modying genetics to a detrimental effect for many. Please defeat this bill! and let Nature be NATURAL!!

Thank you for the opportunity to be heard and stand with Nature.

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/28/2026 4:51:21 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Norbert Wolszon	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly support this bill and encourage you all to do the same. Kahana Bay is an emergency situation and needs your support to stabilize the shoreline, save jobs, protect the envoronment, and provde a beach for locals and tourists to enjoy for genertaions to come. Thjis beach is an economic engine for the area. Don't let it disappear forever!!

Mahalo for your time and consideration

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/28/2026 4:54:09 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joseph Bolster	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am submitting this testimony in support of HB1800. Please consider Kahana Bay for your Green fee initiative.

Thank you,

Joseph

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/28/2026 7:07:49 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anne Allison	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm opposed to Executive Budget funding through HB1800 for programs and projects that include the release of *Wolbachia*-bacteria-infected mosquitoes and/or lab-altered mosquitoes of any kind on any island. These mosquito releases are dangerous and irreversible, and the invasive lab mosquitoes could have harmful impacts to the health of these islands now and for many years to come."

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/29/2026 4:12:47 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Josephine Keliipio	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm opposed to Executive Budget funding through HB1800 for programs and projects that include the release of *Wolbachia*-bacteria-infected mosquitoes and/or lab-altered mosquitoes of any kind on any island. These mosquito releases are dangerous and irreversible, and the invasive lab mosquitoes could have harmful impacts to the health of these islands now and for many years to come."

I find it appalling that as a medical doctor fot human health, Governor Green's

"Green Fee" request includes **$1.6 million** in general funds in fiscal year 2027 for the "Endangered Forest Bird Mosquito Abatement Project to protect the native bird populations from mosquitoes" AND an **additional $1.6 million** "to support the protection and recovery of Hawaii's native birds from mosquito-born avian malaria and other existential threats" and YET has absolutely no funding to protect humans from any infections that might occur due to the release of millions of experimental wolbachia infected mosquitos.

Please do not fund HB 1800.

Mahalo,

Josephine Keliipio

Kailua Kona, Hawaii

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/29/2026 5:23:44 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Larry Kapchinsky	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

March 28, 2026

"LET IT FALL INTO THE OCEAN!"

Said the man who doesn't pay taxes.

Aloha, This Larrry Kapchinsky and my wife, Janice, and I are eldery owners and residents at Valley Isle Resort. This is the Second home that we have owned in Kahana Bay. We love this area and chose to live here because we find this specific location to provide a sense of peace, health and security.

As State of Hawaii and Maui County taxpayers we are very concerned about the inaction to save the shoreline of our Kahana Bay. We strongly encourage those in elected government positions and staff positions who represent local taxpayers to bill strongly support SB1800, urging priority funding for Kahana Bay projects.

As we see the degeneration of sandbags that were originally placed as barriers to stop beach erosion and sand, washing up on our lawns and in some cases washing onto the lanais of some ground level homes, it causes us to wonder, "who is in charge here?" These sandbags were placed on the shoreline to provide short-term protection until a long-term solution could be put into place. And now the AOAOs are not allowed to move, strengthen or repair this temporary line of protection and it appears there is no long-term solution by the county and state except "just let it fall into the ocean". Like many of our fellow owners we amazed that elected officials and hired staff are not fighting to protect the shoreline of Kahana Bay.

As taxpayers and property owners it is urgent that we see strong support of SB1800, specifically urging priority funding for Kahana Bay projects. from our representatives

If left unchecked, along with many others, we will lose our home. The ocean will absolutely destroy homes, places of business, beautiful beaches and will create a disastrous loss of jobs. The tax dollars that presently come into our community will stop.

The loss of millions and millions of tax dollars from property tax, sales tax, income tax will most likely harm or even require major cut in places like our schools and maybe even closure of

some. Cuts to the community services will also be a factor. The list will go on and on. If the tax dollars do not come in, services cannot be provided. That is a fact.

We all remember the destruction of 2020 covid. At first it was nice to have beaches that were not crowded and roads with few cars on them. We were able to walk into a restaurant and be seated immediately because there no other customers there. The waiters and waitresses were very chatty and just wanted to talk because there were no other customers. Plus, they were being friendly for a larger tip because there were very few tips. I know this for a fact.

After a while, we realized that our financial base was gone. The tourist who came to experience our beaches were not allowed to come. We also saw that many of our Hawaiian residents found it necessary to move to the mainland because there were no jobs for them. They couldn't provide for their families. I know this for a fact.

Some were able to return while others lost their island paradise forever. Their children will not know the sandy beaches and the breezes of paradise. Many of you know that for a fact.

If the elected leaders who are entrusted with protecting this community continue to avoid the crisis at hand, we will see major destruction of homes, resorts, businesses and people's lives.

Like some of you, I had to literally run from the Lahaina fires. It now appears that disaster could have been avoided or at east greatly lessened with preplanning and aggressive action. Our losses were huge! Unbearable and still embarrassing as we look back and see what could have been done to prepare. Now, as we and our guests enter Lahaina we are greeted with flags and pictures of lost lives, bare lots and a gigantic reminder of what was lost that didn't need to be lost…if only those in charge would have been aggressive in taking charge.

Along with many any others I don't want our island to be an eyesore like the disaster in the Palisades of Los Angeles, Malibu and Alta Dena. That disaster didn't need to happen. The decisions makers and those in authority were asleep at the wheel.

Maui cannot have three disasters back-to-back.

Presently, the confusion and uncertainty about the future of our shoreline can be rectified by the approval of HB1800.

The working groups like KBSC Oceanit and others that have labored so diligently to keep our beaches and save our property are to be commended. These groups have a well thought-out and scientific plan that will work. It cannot and must not be dismissed. I want to say "Mahalo" to all of them and encourage them to keep fighting, pushing and expecting. We are behind you.

We strongly and respectively ask those in our government agencies who represent us to aggressively support HB1800 in support of saving Kahana Bay.

I urge you to please listen to the residents who own property, which is the financial base of a properly working government, and not the loud and careless voices of those who do not value preservation and protection of Maui's financial future.

Respectfully,

Larry and Janice Kapchinsky, Valley Isle #510

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/29/2026 6:35:03 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dr. Colleen Sutton	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz (Chair) and Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki (Vice Chair)

I own a small home in Kahana and have been a member of the community since I was a child. I support bill HB1800 because it will fund the Kahana Bay beach restoration. The bill, SB2401, relating to regional shoreline mitigation districts unanimously passed recently.

In 2013 a hurricane washed away many yards of beautiful sandy beach in Kahana. My ohana hoped that things would be resolved and the beach returned. More than a decade later, I still hope to see that beach in Kahana again.

The Kahana Bay Steering Committee hired capable engineers. These engineers assessed the way water flows around different types of structures. They have prepared appropriate plans and considered the potential impacts to the environment. The proposed plan will provide a balanced approach and restore some of the habitat that was lost when the hurricane washed away the Kahana beach.

I am grateful for the opportunity to share my hope that my children and generations to follow will have the chance to experience the same wonderful beach that I knew.

Mahalo,

Dr. Colleen Sutton

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/29/2026 6:37:36 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cassie Sutton	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Lamosao and Members of the Committee on Water and Land,

I own a small home in Kahana and have been a member of the community since I was a child. I support amending sections 2 and 3 of the bill and adding the KBSC beach restoration project to the bill.

In 2013 a hurricane (made more intense by climate change) washed away many yards of beautiful sandy beach in Kahana. My tūtū hoped that things would be resolved and the beach returned. More than a decade later, I still hope to see that beach in Kahana again.

The Kahana Bay Steering Committee hired capable engineers. These engineers assessed the way water flows around different types of structures. They have prepared appropriate plans and considered the potential impacts to the environment. The proposed plan will provide a balanced approach and restore some of the habitat that was lost when the hurricane washed away the Kahana beach.

I am grateful for the opportunity to share my hope that my children and generations to follow will have the chance to experience the same wonderful beach that I knew.

Mahalo,

Cassie Sutton

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/29/2026 7:48:09 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sara Patton	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose Executive Budget funding through HB1800 for programs and projects that include the release of lab-altered mosquitoes of any kind on any island. The effectiveness of these programs is unproven, and they will likely have unintended and negative consequences for our ecosystems and environment. The experiments are dangerous and irreversible, and invasive lab mosquitoes could have harmful impacts to the health of these islands now and for years to come. Especially following the disastrous flooding that just occurred, Hawaii is in a state of extreme infrastructure disrepair and increasingly unaffordable housing. I beg you to prioritize funding that solves these problems and immediately cease these reckless mosquito experiments.

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/29/2026 9:03:50 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Natalie Fobes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Senator Sharon Moriwaki, and Members of the WAM Committee

I support this bill and the project portfolio of 75 high-impact, ready-to-deliver projects that were carefully selected by the Council.

I own a condo at Kahana Reef and over the years have been alarmed at the erosion that is happening around Kahana Bay.

A group of owners hired Oceanit to come up with a plan to mitigate this erosion. That plan is ready to go. The Green Fee money will help move it along.

When implemented, this mitigation will create new public beaches as well as protect important infrastructure, water, sewer and electricity, that runs below and above Lower Honoapiilani Road.

Mahalo,

Natalie Fobes

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/29/2026 9:06:01 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Steven S Reiss	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha!

My name is Steven Reiss and I am a condo ower at Valley Isle Resort in Kahana Maui. I am in support of SB1800, specifically urging priority funding for Kahana Bay projects for erosion control on our coastline.

Please consider this and other projects for funding.

Thank you!

Steven S Reiss

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/29/2026 10:14:12 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bob Alessandrelli	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Senators/Committee Members,

We are very supportive of this bill and hope that you, too, will support it. As owners of a condo on Kahana Bay, an affected area, we don't want our Kahana Reef unit to slide into the ocean...literally...as one unit in Kahana Sunset just north of us, already has. The threat is real.

Mahalo for consideration and support.

Bob & Mary Alessandrelli, Kahana Reef 101, Lahaina, Maui

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/29/2026 10:15:03 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Koshu Madnani	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We are requesting that a % of the green fee be used to protect the Kahana Bay from erosion.

We live here and the beach is used not only by the residents and guests but also by the public who have access.

We need to ensure the beach continues to exist and allow everyone to enjoy it.

Thank you for your consideration.

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/29/2026 11:01:54 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Debbie gigliotti	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is critical that the beach's be protected and preserved, The tourist has been paying .75% more in taxes since Jan 1 2026. Its a green fee...then use some of it to improve the tourist experience and the islands future. It is of no cost to the county...its free money...the tourist must pay it....I am asking you contribute .5% to a plan to protect the shorelines in Maui. The new tax would be way more palatable if the payers knew they were paying to take care of the island in a tangible way. I ask you to vote that the majority money that has been collected is used to shore up the beach's and shorelines.

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/29/2026 11:22:59 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Danny Cox	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Subject: Strong Support for SB1800 – Prioritize Funding for Kahana Bay Coastal Resiliency

Dear Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in strong support of SB1800, the supplemental budget bill, and respectfully urge you to prioritize funding for critical coastal resiliency projects at Kahana Bay on Maui.

With the implementation of the Green Fee—Hawai‘i’s 0.75% climate impact fee on lodging—our state has taken an important step toward ensuring that visitor-generated revenue is reinvested into protecting the very natural resources that make Hawai‘i so special. SB1800 provides a vital opportunity to direct those funds where they are most urgently needed.

Kahana Bay is a treasured West Maui resource that is increasingly vulnerable to coastal erosion, shoreline degradation, and climate-driven impacts. Without proactive investment, we risk losing not only a vital beach ecosystem, but also the cultural, environmental, and economic benefits it provides to residents and visitors alike.

Projects such as sand nourishment and shoreline stabilization are essential to:

- Preserve public beach access
- Protect nearby infrastructure and communities
- Maintain the ecological health of the coastline
- Sustain Maui’s long-term economic resilience

Allocating Green Fee revenues to Kahana Bay reflects the intent of the program: to ensure that tourism contributes directly to the stewardship and restoration of Hawai‘i’s natural assets.

I respectfully ask that you support SB1800 and prioritize funding for Kahana Bay coastal resiliency projects. This is a meaningful opportunity to take action today that will benefit our communities and future generations.

Mahalo for your leadership and commitment to protecting Hawai‘i’s environment.

Sincerely,
Danny Cox and Cheryl Novak

To: House Committee on Finance / Relevant Committee Members

From: Luis Cabrera, Valley Isle Resort, Unit #702

Subject: Strong Support for HB1800 – Funding for Kahana Bay Shoreline Restoration

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To the Honorable Chair and Members of the Committee,

As the owner of **Valley Isle unit #702**, I am writing to express my **strong support for HB1800**. This legislation is a critical step in addressing the severe environmental and economic crisis currently unfolding at Kahana Bay.

Why Kahana Bay Needs Priority Funding

The shoreline erosion in West Maui is no longer a distant threat; it is an immediate emergency. For those of us at Valley Isle and our neighboring properties, the accelerated loss of coastline is threatening the structural integrity of our homes and the safety of our community.

I support this bill for the following key reasons:

- **Urgent Shoreline Protection:** The erosion in front of the condos has reached a tipping point. Without priority funding for professional remediation and sand restoration, we risk losing not just private property, but the public beach access that defines this region.
- **Economic Impact:** Kahana is a vital hub for West Maui's economy. The degradation of our coastline threatens property values, tax revenue, and the local tourism industry that sustains many families on the island.
- **A Long-Term Solution:** Piecemeal, individual efforts are insufficient for a problem of this scale. HB1800 provides the necessary framework and financial backing to implement a cohesive, science-based restoration plan for the entire bay.

A Plea for Action

We are at a stage where "waiting and seeing" is no longer an option. The shoreline is receding at an alarming rate, and the infrastructure at Kahana is increasingly vulnerable to every swell and storm. We need the state to prioritize Kahana Bay in its budgetary considerations to ensure that this coastline remains a viable, beautiful part of Maui for generations to come.

I urge the committee to **pass HB1800** to provide the essential funds required to protect our homes, our environment, and our community.

Thank you for your time and for your commitment to protecting Hawaii's coastlines.

Sincerely,



Support for HB1800: Protecting the Kahana Bay Shoreline

Date: March 29, 2026

To: Members of the House Committee

Regarding: HB1800 – Appropriation for Shoreline Restoration

As a co-owner **Valley Isle Resort #702**, I am writing to urge your immediate support for **HB1800**. We are currently witnessing the rapid disappearance of our shoreline, and without the priority funding outlined in this bill, the future of the Kahana coastline is in serious jeopardy.

The Critical Need for Intervention

For those of us living in and managing units at Valley Isle, the shoreline erosion is not a theoretical concern—it is an everyday reality.

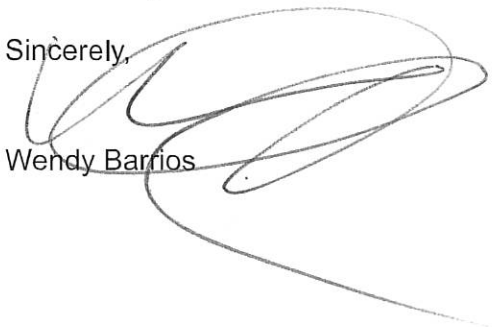
- **Priority for Kahana:** While erosion is a statewide issue, Kahana Bay has reached a crisis point. The proximity of the waves to our building foundations has created an emergency that requires immediate state-level funding and coordination.
- **Safety and Infrastructure:** This is about more than just a beach; it is about protecting the infrastructure of West Maui. Without the restoration projects funded by HB1800, we face the potential loss of homes and public access ways.
- **Responsible Stewardship:** We need a proactive, funded plan to manage sand replenishment and coastal armoring. HB1800 provides the resources necessary to implement these professional solutions before the damage becomes irreversible.

Conclusion

The situation at Kahana Bay is dire. As an owner directly affected by the encroaching tide, I am asking you to recognize the urgency of this matter. Please support **HB1800** to ensure that Kahana Bay receives the priority funding it needs to survive this environmental challenge.

Mahalo for your consideration and for your dedication to Maui's coastal preservation.

Sincerely,



Wendy Barrios

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/29/2026 1:52:05 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Renae Steichen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to support state budget including the new Green Fee, which can be an important source of revenue to fund critical infrastructure projects in the state. In particular, I support including Kahana Bay as an area for funding.

As a homeowner at a property that is at serious risk of shoreline erosion, I understand the importance of coastal resiliency projects to restore shorelines and prevent further erosion.

Kahana Bay in Maui experiences serious and ongoing shoreline erosion. We currently are forced to rely on emergency sandbags as the only protection against further erosion, leaving buildings and infrastructure vulnerable to additional and potentially catastrophic shoreline loss.

This Green Fee can put us on a path to a constructive solution, by creating a framework for property owners to work collaboratively with state and county agencies. By working together, we can develop a more comprehensive shoreline protection and adaptation solution to protect our land, including the public access beaches and properties.

I also thank you for the passage of SB 2401 as an important part of Kahana Bay restoration.

Thank you for your consideration,

Renae Steichen

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/29/2026 1:58:29 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Diane Ware	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair and Committee Members,

Hawai‘i is facing escalating climate risks, including wildfire, coastal erosion, invasive species spread, coral reef degradation and water insecurity, all of which directly threaten public safety, cultural resources and economic stability

Together, projects funded by tourism green fees can make every dollar of funding count by addressing climate hazards and risks holistically with a broad range of complementary approaches.

To proactively mitigate the otherwise unmanageable costs and potential devastation of future disasters, Hawai‘i needs to:

- **Strengthen resilience** to climate-driven disasters immediately.
- **Protect critical ecosystems** that serve as our first line of defense.
- **Sustain natural and cultural resources** that Hawai‘i’s communities and visitor economy depend on.
  Malama Pono by supporting this bill,
- Diane Ware Volcano 96785

Ginny Parsons
TELEPHONE: 1-808-870-8992
Email: Ginny@DeadlyClear.com

P.O. Box 53
Hana, Hawaii 96713

4575 HANA HWY.
HANA, HAWAII 96713

Aloha Honorable Members of the Hawaii State Legislature:

RE: HB1800

Thank you for the opportunity to express opinions on the Mosquito Experiment that has radically changed the ecological profile of Hana, Maui, Hawaii. I'd like to invite each and every one of you to spend an afternoon in my backyard where the insect environment has dramatically changed since the bacteria infested mosquito experiment began. These biting mosquitoes have drastically increased in number and size since the experiment began. It has been impossible to use the yard because within seconds the mosquitoes swarm and attack – biting leaving sizable welts. When I do go outside, I have to completely cover my body, drench myself in mosquito repellent, and if I miss a spot – the mosquitoes immediately find it. To say it is an unpleasant experience is seriously understated. The lack of use of my property is significantly damaging to my quality of life.

With the sizeable increase of biting mosquitoes, came tons of spiders and gnats. The cost to eradicate these insects with environmentally friendly products is astronomically expensive, not to mention the prolonged periods of rain this year have made it all but impossible for any insect killing product to last more than a day or two. It appears to me that the designers of this questionable experiment didn't take Hana rainforest weather into account.

Our property borders the stream that is fed by the watershed that appears to be where the mosquitoes were/are dropped, so the entire stream area is infected with bacteria altered mosquitoes. Much of the coastline in Hana is undeveloped jungle and/or highly landscaped with tropical foliage. With constant rain these plants hold water which is an invitation for mosquitoes to breed. Mosquitoes can carry and transmit certain parasites. Lymphatic filariasis is just one of chronic parasitic diseases caused by microscopic worms transmitted to humans through mosquito bites. It primarily damages the lymphatic system.

Lymphatic filariasis is caused by parasitic worms (filarial nematodes) transmitted by mosquitoes. Those worms depend on the bacterium Wolbachia living inside them. The disease remains a leading cause of permanent disability in tropical and subtropical regions. While Lymphatic filariasis (elephantiasis) is not currently an endemic in Hawaii yet, it's basically an unknown during this experimental testing that the public did not agree to.

This is a tropical environment, with no freeze or sub-zero weather to eliminate environmental hazards, mistakes or experimental growth. This was an obvious conclusion when Upcountry

Maui allowed the water department to introduce a phosphate inhibitor to stop ledge from leaching back in 2002, without any tabletop testing. The phosphate staved water supply bloomed with bacteria and virus throughout the system and into resident's homes, water heaters and pipe systems that is still active today in some areas.

Moreover, HB1800 funds a program that directly contradicts Hawaii's invasive species and biosecurity policies by introducing a biological agent, Wolbachia, into nutrient-limited watersheds without the safeguards or the rigorous biocontrol review normally required.

On Maui, the Maui Invasive Species Committee (MISC) is one of the State's primary partners in invasive species prevention and control. MISC's mission is to protect Maui's ecosystems by preventing the introduction and spread of invasive organisms. Yet HB1800 simultaneously funds MISC to suppress invasive species and funds the release of millions of invasive mosquitoes into native forests. This creates a clear policy contradiction. The State is paying one program to remove invasive species while paying another to increase their population.

Like many residents of Hawaii, while we didn't have major mosquito problems, we certainly have had the door opened to the potential of new diseases that stem from the massive swarms of mosquitoes and other insects. More mosquitoes → higher chance of viral exposure.

This insect population bloom, caused by an infected mosquitoes experiment is overwhelming, dangerous and debilitating. Those in our government that brought forth this experiment without public consent and took money for allowing these infected mosquitoes to proliferate our islands, are potentially personally facing Title 42 § 1983 Deliberate Indifference, among other claims.

For all the reasons stated herein, **I vehemently oppose HB1800** and strongly suggest the entire mosquito experiment be immediately tabled until such time that an independent report, (not paid for by any of the experiment participants, foundations or funders) – and given a chance for the federal government to weigh in on the findings, as this affects not only Hawaii – but the many countries that come and visit us and/or ship product to (and from) our state that could ultimately become infected – much like rat lungworm did in produced shipped off island and out of state.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Virginia Parsons
Former Maui County Water Board Member
2002-2007

DISCLAIMER: I am a paralegal. I am not an attorney. Nothing in this correspondence should be construed as legal advice or misconstrued as practicing law.

P.O. Box 53 • Hana, Hawaii 96713 • PH (808) 870-8990 • PH (808) 870-8992

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/29/2026 3:55:52 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alan S Reinig	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to express my strong and deep concern that HB 1800, HD1 be approved. This supplemental budget is not merely a fiscal document; it is a critical lifeline for Hawaii's families and a necessary safeguard for our state's future.

I support this measure for the following reasons:

• Protecting Essential Social Services: With the recent reduction in federal support for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Medicaid, our most vulnerable residents are at risk. I strongly support the state's decision to assume a larger share of these costs to ensure that food security and healthcare access remain uninterrupted for our local families.

• Continued Wildfire Recovery and Resilience: The funding allocated for wildfire risk reduction and disaster preparedness is vital. We cannot afford to lose momentum in rebuilding Lahaina or in hardening our infrastructure against future climate-related disasters.

• Investing in Housing and Infrastructure: The $1.4 billion in capital improvement funding—particularly for affordable housing and healthcare infrastructure—is essential for lowering the cost of living and keeping our young professionals and families from moving out of state.

Passing HB 1800 is a matter of stability for Hawaii. I urge this committee to move the bill forward to ensure these critical resources are deployed without delay.

Mahalo for your time and for the opportunity to testify on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Al Reinig

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/29/2026 5:43:09 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ross Wilson Jr.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support. It's important in the collaboartive efforts we're all doing to keep our community healthy. Mahalo for your kokua.

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/29/2026 6:37:44 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Steve Cawley	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Kahana Bay is in desperate need for work on coastal resiliency such as sand nourishment and shoreline stabilization to address ongoing erosion issues. Please use the Green Fee revenues to protect our important West Maui resource. The Kahana area is very susceptible to rising sea levels, storrms and other time. Please support our vulnerable area.

I

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/30/2026 6:15:35 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tracy Tremble	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello, I am the Kahana Outrigger HOA President. Kahana Bay is in a very vulnerable area and has proven to be very susceptible to rising ocean levels. We have lost quite a bit of beach over the years. Any form of coastal resiliency is desperately needed now before our shoreline concerns become massive problems for all properties and residents. Thank you for your consideration

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/30/2026 6:54:14 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
michael kayem	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Maui Council, please help save our Kahana Bay shoreline. we are all in this together, if nothing is done we all loose! thank you

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/30/2026 7:49:27 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brett Hattaway	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in support of HB1800 and to urge priority funding for all Kahana Bay projects, (which is where I own my apartment). These initiatives are essential investments in the long-term resilience of our beaches, cultural sites, and surrounding communities.

Kahana Bay is one of Hawai‘i’s most treasured natural assets, yet it faces accelerating erosion, infrastructure strain, and visitor-impact pressures. HB1800 provides a well thought out and responsible mechanism which I support very much to direct visitor-generated revenues toward the protections we have been calling for and that the area needs badly.

My input into this process is focused on ensuring that these resources are deployed where they will have the greatest impact:

- Stabilizing and restoring the shoreline;
- Improving safety and access for locals and visitors alike; and
- Strengthening environmental capacity building in an important and high-use, high-value coastal zone.

Prioritizing Kahana Bay within HB1800 is fiscally sound and also a well needed commitment to safeguarding a community and coastline that cannot be replaced and which is particularly important in light of the devestating fires.

I respectfully urge the Committee to advance this bill with dedicated funding for these critical projects.

With best personal regards,

Brett Hattaway

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/30/2026 8:54:53 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Serena Reiss	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in strong support of SB1800, specifically urging priority funding for Kahana Bay projects.

Mahalo,

Serena Reiss

Valley Isle Resort

Maui, HI

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/30/2026 9:20:31 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Melissa May	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Sharon Moriwaki, and Members of the Ways and Means Committee,

I am a practicing planner, a Commissioner on the Honolulu Planning Commission, and Vice Chair of ACEC Hawaii's Resilience Committee. I am testifying in **strong support of the appropriation of Green Fee revenues as recommended by the Green Fee Advisory Council (GFAC).**

The recommended portfolio includes investments that directly strengthen Hawai‘i’s built and natural infrastructure systems, including:

- Wildfire risk reduction and vegetation management
- Coastal resilience and erosion mitigation
- Flood control and stormwater management improvements
- Watershed protection and aquifer recharge
- Community resilience infrastructure and emergency preparedness

These investments reduce long-term strain on public infrastructure systems, improve safety, and lower future capital and disaster recovery costs.

Federal studies show that **investments in hazard mitigation and community resilience can save up to $13 in recovery costs for every $1 invested**, enhancing life safety and recovery speed. These are salient figures in light of our recent flooding events.

Many years of working with communities on long-range plans at the county and state level also emphasizes the critical need for resources to manage our treasured natural areas so that they are not "loved to death" by residents and visitors alike. These resources are our natural capital and what makes Hawaii unique.

The Green Fee is already pointed to and discussed across communities nationwide as an example of a progressive measure for funding community resilience, tourism management, and environmental stewardship - I respectfully urge the Legislature to make it so by:

- **Funding the full portfolio** of GFAC-recommended projects to ensure a coordinated, statewide approach

- **Prioritizing implementation-ready projects** that can demonstrate measurable outcomes within the fiscal period
- **Maintaining the equal statutory split** across Environmental Stewardship, Climate and Hazard Resilience, and Sustainable Tourism
- **Supporting transparency and accountability**, including public reporting and performance tracking
- **Ensuring funds remain additive** and do not replace existing infrastructure or environmental budgets

Mahalo for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Melissa May, AICP

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/30/2026 11:35:05 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Audrey Tamashiro-Kamii	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e Chair Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Senator Sharon Moriwaki, and Members of the WAM Committee,

My name is Audrey Tamashiro-Kamii. I am a resident of Makawao, Maui. The recent Kona storms intensified by climate change have significantly impacted our natural resources, our economy, and our communities. We are witnessing these devastating effects firsthand - an urgent reminder that we cannot afford to wait to act. For this reason, I am writing in strong support of the Hawai‘i Green Fee Project Portfolio included in HB1800.

This portfolio represents an important step toward securing much-needed funding for initiatives that advance environmental stewardship, climate adaptation, and sustainable tourism across Hawai‘i. These challenges are deeply interconnected, and addressing them effectively will require a holistic approach, along with equitable and sustained investment. Such support is essential to ensuring meaningful, long-term benefits for our ‘āina, our communities, our visitors and our economy.

I respectfully urge the committee to ensure the Hawai‘i Green Fee project portfolio is prioritized, consistent with the recommendations put forth by the Governor, the Green Fee Advisory Council and the House Finance Committee. By investing in these initiatives, we can continue to mālama ‘āina, support responsible tourism, and ensure our communities remain strong and resilient for generations to come.

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify,

Audrey Tamashiro-Kamii

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/30/2026 1:31:19 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessica Middleton	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support funding for our native forest birds. We have already lost so many of them and it is so important for Hawai'is culture that we protect them from extinction. Climate change is causing mosquitoes to live in higher elevations threatening our native birds even more with avian malaria. Please therefore as 1.6 million to the endangered forest birds mosquito abatement program and please also add an additional 1.6 million in FY 2027 to the protection and recovery of Hawaiis native birds. Hawai'i has lost so much of its unique flora and fauna and we can't afford to lose any more birds. Mahalo for your attention!

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/30/2026 3:11:10 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rick Gerding	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support those areas of public life at the top of your priority list (education, healthcare, environmental protection etc) AND also funding for good governance initiatives and publicly funded elections. Thank you

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/30/2026 3:20:07 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christian Cooper	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As the host of the National Geographic TV series *Extraordinary Birder*, I had the privilege of spotlighting Hawaii for an episode about your amazing native birds and their plight. What I learned there, as a longtime birder, is just how culturally important your native birds are to the people of Hawaii AND what an amazing resource they are to drive tourism from birders like me, who long to see the species that can only be found on your islands. Therefore I strongly urge you to pass this bill with 2 extremely important line items for forest birds that are included in governor Green's green fee request:

Native Resources and Fire Protection Program - Forestry Division (LNR 402/DA)

1. Add $1,600,000 in general funds in FY 27 for the Endangered Forest Bird Mosquito Abatement Project to protect the native bird populations from mosquitoes.

2. Add $1,600,000 in general funds in FY 27 to support the protection and recovery of Hawai'i's native birds from mosquito-born avian malaria and other existential threats.

The birds, your people, the ecology, and your economy will thank you for it!

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/30/2026 3:52:17 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carina Lau	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support 2 extremely important line items: adding the general funds in FY 2027 for the Endangered Forest Bird Mosquito Abatement Program and add 1,600,000 to support the protection and recovery of the native birds from mosquito-born avain malaria.

As a person born and raised on Maui I know how incredibly rare and special the birds we have are and that they need and deserve to be protected. It is important to care for the animals as we care for the land and other people. We must respect the past, the present, and the future and we can do that by saving these birds.

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/30/2026 4:19:13 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cindy Millford	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm asking for your support, for the birds and natural world that makes Hawaii so precious and connected to Mother Earth.

Please pass The two items below:

Natural Resources and Fire Prevention Program - Forestry Division (LNR-402/DA)

add $1,600,000 for the Endangered Forest Bird Mosquito Abatement Project to protect endangered bird populations from mosquitoes and extinction.

add $1,600,000 for Protection and recovery of Hawaii's native birds from mosquito born avian malaria and other existential threats.

Thank you for your support, the birds thank you, the people of Hawaii thank you, tourists thank you and bird watchers around the planet thank you!

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/30/2026 4:29:15 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alan H. Vierra	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am a Native Hawaiian born and raised on O'ahu residing in California. Our native wildlife is worth every dollar to save our species.

Māhalo,

Alan Hanohano Vierra

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/30/2026 4:32:16 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lory Ono	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support funding for environmental protection, education, and health care. I also support funding for good governance initiatives and publicly funded elections.

Mahalo,

Lory Ono

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/30/2026 4:35:17 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
John Wassell	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support funding for good governance initiatives and publicly funded elections.

JJ Wassell

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/30/2026 4:57:53 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jasmine Ong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in strong support of SB1800.

I believe this bill represents an important step toward strengthening the community and addressing critical challenges that impact our island. SB1800 offers a thoughtful and necessary approach to improving outcomes for local residents, while also helping to ensure a more sustainable and equitable future for Hawai‘i.

Maui faces unique circumstances—geographic isolation, limited resources, and increasing pressures on our infrastructure and environment. Policies like SB1800 are essential to ensuring that our community can thrive while preserving the values and natural beauty that make our island so special.

This measure will:

- Support the well-being of local residents
- Promote long-term sustainability
- Help address ongoing community needs in a responsible and forward-thinking way

I respectfully urge the Committee to pass SB1800. Thoughtful legislation like this is critical to protecting our community and building a stronger future for the people of Maui.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/30/2026 5:09:52 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
lisa insalata	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

PLEASE support those areas of public life at the top of your priority list (education, healthcare, environmental protection etc) AND support funding for good governance initiatives and publicly funded elections.

YOU MAKE THE RULES AND if needed YOU CAN CHANGE THE RULES – bills can be re-referred, the deadlines can be amended, and the session if necessary extended.MAHALO

I oppose funding the State's Military and Community Relations Office

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/30/2026 5:16:33 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Orizema Cruz-Lee	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As the wife of someone born and raised in the state of Hawaii, I've had the privilege of visiting the islands at least once a year since 2021. With support from my husband and his O'ahu-based parents, I have been able to explore my deep passion for birds and native bird conservation during our visits, yet it was only two months ago that we heard and saw our first native forest bird (the O'ahu 'Amakihi) at Wa'ahila Ridge State Recreation Area. It was a moment of joy, learning, and bonding for our family, yet also one of uncertainty due to the threats that Hawaii's native forest birds face. As a birder and hopeful future resident, I strongly urge you to pass this bill with 2 extremely important line items for forest birds that are included in governor Green's green fee request:

Native Resources and Fire Protection

Program - Forestry Division (LNR 402/DA)

1. Add $1,600,000 in general funds in FY 27 for the Endangered Forest Bird Mosquito Abatement Project to protect the native bird populations from mosquitoes.
2. Add $1,600,000 in general funds in FY 27 to support the protection and recovery of Hawaii's native birds from mosquito-born avian malaria and other existential threats.

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/30/2026 5:19:15 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
gabrielle davidson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Committee Members,

I am a Kauaʻi resident writing to urge the committee to prioritize people over politics in the state budget.

Please support robust funding for **public education**, **healthcare**, and **environmental protection**. These are the foundations of a healthy, thriving Hawaii — and they are chronically underfunded while working families struggle with the highest cost of living in the nation.

I also strongly support funding for **publicly funded elections and good governance initiatives**. Our democracy works better when candidates answer to voters, not donors.

Finally, I urge the committee to **oppose any state funding for the Military and Community Relations Office (MACRO)**. MACRO is already federally funded — there is no justification for Hawaii taxpayers to subsidize a DoD public relations office. Those dollars belong in our classrooms and clinics, not in the Pentagon's community outreach budget.

The money exists in this budget to do right by Hawaii's people. The question is whether it's a priority. I'm asking you to make it one.

Mahalo for your service and your consideration.

Gabrielle Davidson

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/30/2026 5:32:53 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michelle Mak Scott	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha kākou,

I'm submitting this testimony in support of two specific line items for forest birds including in Gov. Green's green fee request fir Native Resources and Fire Protection Program – Forestry Division (LNR 402/DA):

1. Add $6 million in general funds for FY 27 for the Endangered Forest Bird Mosquito Abatement Project to protect native bird populations from mosquitos
2. Add $1.6 million in general funds for FY 27 to support the protection and recovery of Hawaii's native birds from mosquito-born avian malaria and other existential threats

Hawaii's native birds are the most endangered on the planet, yet local conservationists refuse to surrender and are fighting to save the birds we still have with optimism, creativity, and joy! Please provide funds to combat mosquitos. I recently added a talk at Bishop Museum where Dr. Micharl Campana, a computational genomicist at the Smithsonian National Zoo, and he repeatedly noted that best way to save native birds is to combat mosquitos. Let's preserve what's left of our native birds for future generations to cherish and to learn from.

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/30/2026 5:33:30 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sheila Strachan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As an annual visitor to Hawaii who has experienced the joy of seeing many native Hawaiian birds, and who understands the importance native species play in Hawaiian culture. I encourage you to act with urgency to prevent further extinction of any more native species.

I am writing in support of HB 1800.

I strongly urge you to pass this bill with 2 extremely important line items for forest birds that are included in governor Green's green fee request:

Native Resources and Fire Protection Program - ForestryDivision (LNR 402/DA)

1. Add $1,600,000 in general funds in FY 27 for the Endangered Forest Bird Mosquito Abatement Project to protect the native bird populations from mosquitoes.
2. Add $1,600,000 in general funds in FY 27 to support the protection and recovery of Hawai'i's native birds from mosquito-born avian malaria and other existential threats.

Thank you for protecting native species that drive tourism from birders and others who long to see the species that can only be found on the Hawaiian islands.

The birds, your people, the ecology, and your economy will thank you for it!

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/30/2026 6:06:13 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Helen Sharratt	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a member of the Friends Of Hakalau. I am writing to express my support for the appropriations for **avian malaria prevention** and **endangered forest bird protection**. Hawaii must urgently do everything possible to prevent the extinction of its remaining endemic birds - once lost they will never return.

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/30/2026 6:28:11 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
irene kloepfer	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha. Please put the people first in this budget, supporting education K-12, also publically funded elections - in fact rank choice voting would eliminate a lot of the grift. We had it in 2020 election for president - it was great. Bring it back. Also. Please please no more funding for the military - they are literally killing the people. If they really wanted to improve relations with the people, they would clean up all their messes and give us money back for what red hill cost the taxpayers. It is time to put the people first. How about some money to start the industrial hemp industry - bringing money into the economy and creating jobs that our keiki can grow up and stay on the land where they were born. Mahalo Irene

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/30/2026 6:48:47 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Amos Zollo	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Amos Zollo. I live and work here on the island of Oahu. As a hard working, tax paying, and voting individual here on the islands, I would like to submit my opinion on what our hard earned tax income should be allocated towards.

Most important should be education. Teaching our children the values of academia, and morality so they may grow up able to take care of themselves and our communities in responsible ways.

Secondly, housing available for all income levels should be achievable for every local person and family that would like to reside here either to rent or the opportunity to own; it is almost unaffordable for most hardworking households here as you should know.

Thirdly is quality healthcare available to all regardless of income. Finally we can not forget about our environment here in Hawaii as we have learned in the past few years. We should try to leave some natural areas untouched because would we want Hawaii to become littered with gas/oil, massive resorts, golf courses, bomb craters.. we have many of those and they serve us well enough already.

I would also like to reiterate; no funding for the military from state tax dollars, they have enough money federally for that. Enough is enough! Thank you for reading my testimony and I hope you will consider my opinions for our state budget.

Sincerely, Amos Zollo

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/30/2026 7:36:33 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Georgia L Hoopes	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chairman of the Ways and Means and Committee Members.

I'm writing to ask you to please support my priorities list:

Education, healthcare, environmental protections, and food security initiatives.

Please support and fund good governance initiatives and publicly funded elections.

If necessary, bills can be re-referred, deadlines can be amended, and sessions can be extended.

Please oppose funding the State's Military and Community Relations Office. Remember SB3240 was soundly defeated!

Mahalo for your consideration.

Georgia Hoopes, Kalaheo

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/30/2026 8:17:31 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nancy Kates	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please make sure to allocate funding to protect Hawaii's native birds, these provisions specifically:

. Add $1,600,000 in general funds in FY 27 for the Endangered Forest Bird Mosquito Abatement Project to protect the native bird populations from

mosquitoes.

2. Add $1,600,000 in general funds in FY 27 to support the protection and recovery of Hawai'i's native birds from mosquito-born avian malaria and other existential threats.

As someone who has birded on the Big Island and elsewhere, particularly the **Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge**, I know the threats to native birds and how grave they are. We DESPERATELY need to protect these birds, which are so endangered and face enormous odds to survive against malaria and other diseases born by insects. Thanks for listening. Please protect Hawaii's birds!!!

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/30/2026 8:34:49 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
John C Wert III	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Legislators,

I fully support HB1800. Hawai'i must definetely support education, kupuna medicine, ACA, lower cost housing, stand alone agriculture, less reliance on tourism, and reduced greed in pricing. I moved here in 1989 and have watched Hawai'i degenerate into a single party wasteland that doesn't even support the state Constitution. Sunshine Laws: forgetum. pay to play: Keepum. Open Congressional Meetings: No need. I stay tired of this!

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/30/2026 8:47:39 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lynn Murakami Akatsuka	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am submitting comments on HB 1800, HD 1 to request strongly that the Chair and the Committee Members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee support and prioritize the areas that will improve and sustain our residents' quality of life to remain in Hawaii and to survive financially for themselves and their families. These areas are education, healthcare, access to funding to re-build from the devestation of the past two major floodings statewide, environmental protection, repairing our infrastructure and to immediately take care of long deferred maintenance projects that now impact our health and safety of our residents.

Also I oppose any funding for the States Millitary and Community Relations Office (MACRO) that was in SB 3240 which was deferred earlier. I ask respectively that the content and funding of SB 3240, SD 1 not be re-inserted into HB 1800, HD 1. That would be in opposition of the voices of 300 individuals who submitted testimony in opposition of SB 3240, SD 1.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my comments on HB 1800, HD 1.

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/30/2026 10:14:19 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
pamela burrell	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha House Members,

Please support the bill HB1800. It's not too late. It can be re-referred, the deadlines can be amended, and the session if necessary extended.

Do the right thing.

Mahalo,

pamela Burrell, Kalihiwai, Kaua'i

Testimony in support of HB1800 Relating to the State Budget.

Senator Dela Cruz, Moriwaki and Members of the Ways and Means Committee,

I am a 20-year veteran of the US Air Force and have volunteered with the Civil Air Patrol for over 10 years. I strongly support the establishment of a State SAR Coordinator position.

As the recent Kona Lows demonstrated, catastrophic incidents can occur at any time. The flooding at Mokuleia, Waialua, Haleiwa, Makaha, Laie, Kahuku, Waimanalo, Kihei and Kahului demonstrated that multiple counties can be quickly overwhelmed by flooding nearly simultaneously. For the Mokuleia-Waialua-Haleiwa area alone, roughly 10,000 people spread across roughly 12 square miles benefited from the search and rescue efforts of the Honolulu Fire Department helicopter, drone and ground units, Honolulu Police Department, Ocean Safety Lifeguards, Honolulu EMS, US Coast Guard air and maritime units, US Navy helicopters, and Hawaii Army National Guard air and ground units. At one point, 53 of Honolulu's 60 fire stations had crews in the field simultaneously responding to 911 calls. Thanks to the efforts of these organizations, over 200 people were rescued over a 2-day period. In such a small area, coordination was absolutely essential. Determining which units would cover which shifts over the 48-hour period, what areas they would cover, what radio frequencies they would operate on, and other steps to minimize the risk of mid-air collisions were some of the areas that a state SAR Coordinator would have served a great benefit. SAR is an immediate response requirement that cannot wait for decisions by committee. If an urgent SAR requirement develops, the county on-scene commander must be able to reach out to a State SAR Coordinator to coordinate the efforts of the various SAR capable units at the volunteer, county, state and federal level.

I support the Governor's Budget line item (Sequence 1100-001) establishing a Hawai‘i State Search and Rescue Coordination Office within the Office of the Governor to evaluate SAR capabilities, develop a statewide framework and mutual aid system, and provide incident-related data. This should be a small office — not a department or agency — and should not own response assets, but focus on coordination.

To preserve county authority, the new office must have clear statutory authority to dispatch mutual aid resources statewide. The proposed $100,000 appropriation is insufficient to establish such an office that must operate 24/7/365 to: respond to county requests for assistance, maintain a database of qualified resources, and dispatch mutual aid assistance across counties. To move Hawai‘i State off the #8 most missing persons per capita in the nation, an annual budget of $1M for a small staff is recommended.

STACY HARUGUCHI, Lt Col, USAF (Retired)

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/31/2026 1:35:42 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Janice Marsters	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to support strong funding of resilience projects through the Green Fee, as recommended by the Green Fee Advisory Council (GFAC). I own a small business engineering and environmental consulting buisiness, including working in stormwater, resilient landscapes, and habitat protection and restoration. The Green Fee established by the legislature is a visionary approach to funding our most pressing environmental and resilience issues in Hawai‘i. I have followed the work of the GFAC and believe their recommendations for the first traunch of Green Fee projects reflect a rigorous, criteria-based evaluation process. The recommended portfolio includes investments that directly strengthen the resilience of Hawaii’s built and natural infrastructure systems. Given the damage wrought on those systems by fire, wind, rain, and flooding over the past few years, I'm encouraged to see the GFAC's proposed list of implementation-ready projects addressing wildfire risk reduction, coastal resilience, flood and stormwater control, watershed protection, and infrastructure resilience. These investments will promote public safety and lower future capital and disaster recovery costs. I respectfully urge the Legislature to adopt and fund the full portfolio of GFAC-recommended projects to quickly move these important projects forward and to provide a safer, more resilient future for Hawai‘i.

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/31/2026 2:59:46 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Vanessa Lee Miller	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Please help us protect our threatened and endangered species.

Mahalo,

Vanessa Lee Miller

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/31/2026 5:35:52 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessica McGeary	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a traveler and birder who supported Maui wildfire relief and has an 'i'iwi plushie on my desk here at work, I support two line items that are included in Governor Green's green fee request, and which are very important for Hawai'i's native birds.

Specifically, the Native Resources and Fire Protection Program- Forestry Division (LNR 402/DA). Item one, the addition of $1,600,000 in general funds in fiscal year 2027 for the Endangered Forest Bird Mosquito Abatement Project. Item two is the addition of $1,600,000 in FY 27 to support the protection and recovery of Hawai‘i'i's native birds from mosquito-borne avian malaria and other potentially existential threats.

The dangers posed to Hawai'i's native birds by avian malaria and other diseases carried by mosquitoes cannot be overstated. Hawai'i's native birds are some of the rarest and most wonderful on the planet, and I would love to hear that it was possible to visit them and know they were protected for generations to come.

Thank you.

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/31/2026 5:54:50 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sydney Thornton	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I greatly support 2 items listed in the Native Resources and Fire Protection Program - Forestry Division (LNR 402/DA) proposition.

1. Adding $1.6 milllion in general funds in FY 2027 for the Endangered Forest Bird Mosquito Abatement Project to protect native bird populations from mosquitoes

2. Adding $1.6 million in general funds in FY 2027 to support the protection and recovery of native birds from mosquito-borne avian malaria and other existential threats

While recent floods are, of course, devastating to the human population, they have also disrupted bird habitat. As a result, it is important to put forth protective measures for one of the state's most beloved resources. Please pass this bill for the benefit of citizens and birds alike.

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/31/2026 6:00:46 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Katie Vhay	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a nature lover and I strongly urge you to pass this bill with 2 important line items for forest birds that are included in governor Green's green fee request:

Native Resources and Fire Protection Program -

Forestry Division (LNR 402/DA)

1. Add $1,600,000 in general funds in FY 27 for the Endangered Forest Bird Mosquito Abatement
2. Project to protect the native bird populations from mosquitoes.
3. Add $1,600,000 in general funds in FY 27 to support the protection and recovery of Hawai'i's native birds from mosquito-born avian malaria and other threats.

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/31/2026 7:56:37 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
William Caron	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

I am submitting testimony on the state budget bill. As we make critical decisions about how to allocate public resources, I urge this Committee to prioritize investments that uplift our communities, protect our most vulnerable residents, and build a more just and sustainable future for Hawai‘i. At the same time, I ask that you reject funding for programs that entrench militarism and divert resources from true community needs.

Invest in Our Keiki and Their Future

Our children deserve a world-class education that prepares them for the challenges of tomorrow. I urge the Committee to fully fund:

- **Public education**, including competitive pay for teachers, smaller class sizes, and resources for students with special needs.
- **Early childhood education**, ensuring that every keiki has access to affordable, high-quality preschool.
- **University of Hawai‘i and community colleges**, which serve as pathways to opportunity for working families across our islands.

Strengthen Healthcare and the Social Safety Net

No one should go without medical care or struggle to put food on the table. I urge the Committee to invest in:

- **Accessible, affordable healthcare**, including community health centers, mental health services, and programs that address Hawai‘i's shortage of medical professionals.
- **Housing and homelessness services**, recognizing that a roof over one's head is the foundation of stability and dignity.
- **Food security programs**, including support for food banks, school meal programs, and initiatives that strengthen local agriculture.

Protect Our ‘Āina and Environment

Hawai‘i's natural beauty and resources are not just our heritage—they are essential to our economy, our health, and our way of life. I urge the Committee to fund:

- **Climate resilience and adaptation**, including sea-level rise planning and disaster preparedness.
- **Protection of our reefs, watersheds, and native species**, ensuring that future generations inherit a thriving environment.
- **Sustainable agriculture and local food systems**, reducing our dependence on imported food and building community resilience.

Strengthen Good Governance and Democracy

Our government should work for the people, not for powerful special interests. I urge the Committee to support:

- **Publicly funded elections**, which empower everyday residents to run for office without relying on wealthy donors.
- **Ethics and transparency initiatives**, ensuring that government decisions are made in the open and in the public interest.
- **Consumer protection and oversight**, holding corporations accountable and protecting residents from fraud and exploitation.

Oppose Funding for MACRO and the Military-Industrial Complex

While I support investments in our communities, I strongly oppose any funding for the State's Military and Community Relations Office (MACRO). This office serves to facilitate and legitimize the growing military presence in our islands, often at the expense of community needs, environmental health, and Native Hawaiian rights.

Hawai‘i already bears an outsized burden of militarization. Our lands have been taken, our waters contaminated, and our communities disrupted by military activities that generate profit for defense contractors while leaving residents to deal with the consequences. Rather than funding an office that serves as a public relations arm for the military, we should redirect those resources to:

- **Environmental remediation** of military-contaminated sites, including Red Hill and other areas where our water and land have been poisoned.
- **Community-based health and housing initiatives** that directly benefit residents.
- **Support for Native Hawaiian self-determination and cultural preservation.**

I also urge this Committee to reject any initiatives that increase dependence on the military-industrial complex. Our economy should not rely on a permanent war machine. Instead, we should invest in sustainable, community-centered economic development that creates good jobs without the environmental and social costs of militarization.

Conclusion

The budget is a statement of our values. It tells our keiki, our kūpuna, and our communities what we prioritize as a state. Let us choose to invest in education, healthcare, housing, environmental protection, and democracy. Let us reject funding that entrenches militarism and instead redirect those resources to the people of Hawai‘i.

I urge this Committee to pass a budget that reflects our highest aspirations for a just, sustainable, and thriving Hawai‘i.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/31/2026 8:27:48 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dr. Hanna Mounce	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony in Strong Support of HB1800 HD1

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

I am writing in strong support of HB1800 HD1 and the funding for mosquito abatement and native forest bird recovery.

Hawai‘i’s forest birds are disappearing right now. Not gradually. Not someday. Now.

I have spent my career working to recover these species, and I have watched populations shrink in real time. Birds that should be common in our forests are now restricted to the last, coldest, highest places mosquitoes cannot easily reach, and even those refuges are no longer safe.

Mosquito-borne avian malaria is the primary driver of these losses. We know what is causing the decline, and we finally have tools that can make a meaningful difference. The work being funded in this bill is not theoretical; it is already happening. But it only works if we can sustain it.

If we pause or underfund these efforts, we will lose ground quickly. And once these species are gone, they are gone forever.

The proposed funding—$1.6 million for mosquito abatement and $1.6 million for forest bird recovery—is not just another line item. It is a lifeline. It is the difference between keeping these species on the landscape and watching them disappear within our lifetimes.

Hawai‘i’s forest birds exist nowhere else in the world. They are part of who we are. Future generations deserve to hear them, not just read about them.

We are at a point where our actions, or inaction, will determine the outcome.

I respectfully urge you to support HB1800 HD1 and ensure these critical funds remain in place.

Mahalo for your consideration,
Dr. Hanna Mounce

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/31/2026 8:34:43 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nolan Rokke	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm in full support of $1,600,000 being added to the FY 27 general fund for the Endangered Forest Birds Mosquito Abatement Project to protect the native bird populations from mosquitoes.

I support $1,600,000 being added to the FY 27 general fund to support the protection and recovery of Hawai‘i‘s native birds from mosquito-borne avian malaria and other existential threats.

Hawai‘i‘s native forest birds are found nowhere else on earth and they are integral to the health and heritage of Hawai‘i. Protecting these native birds helps to protect our native forests, and our human communities rely on healthy forests and watersheds. We must honor and protect our native species and island ecosystems.

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/31/2026 8:37:02 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Augustus Forrest	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm in full support of $1,600,000 being added to the FY 27 general fund for the Endangered Forest Birds Mosquito Abatement Project to protect the native bird populations from mosquitoes.

I support $1,600,000 being added to the FY 27 general fund to support the protection and recovery of Hawai‘i‘s native birds from mosquito-borne avian malaria and other existential threats.

Hawai‘i‘s native forest birds are found nowhere else on earth and they are integral to the health and heritage of Hawai‘i. Protecting these native birds helps to protect our native forests, and our human communities rely on healthy forests and watersheds. We must honor and protect our native species and island ecosystems.

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/31/2026 8:38:44 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

I'm in full support of $1,600,000 being added to the FY 27 general fund for the Endangered Forest Birds Mosquito Abatement Project to protect the native bird populations from mosquitoes.

I support $1,600,000 being added to the FY 27 general fund to support the protection and recovery of Hawai‘i‘s native birds from mosquito-borne avian malaria and other existential threats.

Hawai‘i‘s native forest birds are found nowhere else on earth and they are integral to the health and heritage of Hawai‘i. Protecting these native birds helps to protect our native forests, and our human communities rely on healthy forests and watersheds. We must honor and protect our native species and island ecosystems.

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/31/2026 8:43:44 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessica Eden	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm in full support of $1,600,000 being added to the FY 27 general fund for the Endangered Forest Birds Mosquito Abatement Project to protect the native bird populations from mosquitoes.

I support $1,600,000 being added to the FY 27 general fund to support the protection and recovery of Hawai‘i‘s native birds from mosquito-borne avian malaria and other existential threats.

Hawai‘i‘s native forest birds are found nowhere else on earth and they are integral to the health and heritage of Hawai‘i. Protecting these native birds helps to protect our native forests, and our human communities rely on healthy forests and watersheds. We must honor and protect our native species and island ecosystems

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/31/2026 8:48:48 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alexandria Sinker	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm in full support of $1,600,000 being added to the FY 27 general fund for the Endangered Forest Birds Mosquito Abatement Project to protect the native bird populations from mosquitoes.

I support $1,600,000 being added to the FY 27 general fund to support the protection and recovery of Hawai‘i‘s native birds from mosquito-borne avian malaria and other existential threats.

Hawai‘i‘s native forest birds are found nowhere else on earth and they are integral to the health and heritage of Hawai‘i. Protecting these native birds helps to protect our native forests, and our human communities rely on healthy forests and watersheds. We must honor and protect our native species and island ecosystems.

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/31/2026 8:53:57 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sharona Belcher	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support adding $1,600,000 to the FY 27 general fund to assist the recovery of Hawai‘i‘s native birds, who are incredibly vulnerable to mosquito-borne diseases & threats promoting mosquito populations.

Hawai‘i‘s native forest birds are found nowhere else on earth and are integral to both the health of our native forests and Hawai'i's culture. Our native birds are even featured as "must sees" in visitor advertising, yet they are rapidly disappearing along with their habitat, in part due to the rise of mosquito populations.

Protecting these birds not only ensures the survival of our forests, but also enriches our human communities that rely on healthy forests and watersheds for basic survival and cultural preservation. As stewards of the land, it is our duty to and protect our native species and the ecosystems they inhabit.

Mosquitoes are not native to Hawai‘i and arrived with whaling ships in the 1800s. Now, there are 7 established mosquito species in Hawai'i. Several are capable of spreading disease to people and one introduced species spreads disease that kills native forest birds.

Hawai‘i‘s native forest birds (honeycreepers) did not evolve with avian malaria and most are unable to survive mosquito bites.

Suppressing (or eliminating) mosquito populations ultimately benefits our community, as well as native birds, by preventing the spread of avian disease that devastates our birds and by decreasing potential spread of illnesses like dengue fever at the same time.

Our native birds are in dire need of help. The Po'ouli was lost in 2004 and considering the dire straits our birds remain in, it seems we have not yet learned the lesson. Funding the organizations working so hard to preserve our native flora and fauna would be a massive step in the right direction.

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/31/2026 8:57:30 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lilli Patton	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm in full support of $1,600,000 being added to the FY 27 general fund for the Endangered Forest Birds Mosquito Abatement Project to protect the native bird populations from mosquitoes.

I support $1,600,000 being added to the FY 27 general fund to support the protection and recovery of Hawai‘i‘s native birds from mosquito-borne avian malaria and other existential threats.

Hawai‘i‘s native forest birds are found nowhere else on earth and they are integral to the health and heritage of Hawai‘i. Protecting these native birds helps to protect our native forests, and our human communities rely on healthy forests and watersheds. We must honor and protect our native species and island ecosystems.

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/31/2026 8:58:31 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

I'm in full support of $1,600,000 being added to the FY 27 general fund for the Endangered Forest Birds Mosquito Abatement Project to protect the native bird populations from mosquitoes.

I support $1,600,000 being added to the FY 27 general fund to support the protection and recovery of Hawai‘i‘s native birds from mosquito-borne avian malaria and other existential threats.

Hawai‘i‘s native forest birds are found nowhere else on earth and they are integral to the health and heritage of Hawai‘i. Protecting these native birds helps to protect our native forests, and our human communities rely on healthy forests and watersheds. We must honor and protect our native species and island ecosystems.

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/31/2026 8:58:45 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Hillary Foster	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm in full support of $1,600,000 being added to the FY 27 general fund for the Endangered Forest Birds Mosquito Abatement Project to protect the native bird populations from mosquitoes.

I support $1,600,000 being added to the FY 27 general fund to support the protection and recovery of Hawai‘i‘s native birds from mosquito-borne avian malaria and other existential threats.

Hawai‘i‘s native forest birds are found nowhere else on earth and they are integral to the health and heritage of Hawai‘i. Protecting these native birds helps to protect our native forests, and our human communities rely on healthy forests and watersheds. We must honor and protect our native species and island ecosystems.

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/31/2026 9:00:52 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Georgette Stevens	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony in Support of HB 1800

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

My name is Georgette Nohea Stevens, and I strongly support HB 1800 and the Green Fee Advisory Council's recommendations.

The Council's report reflects a thoughtful approach to addressing Hawai‘i's environmental, climate resilience, and sustainable tourism needs. We support investing these funds into community-based and ‘āina-focused efforts that protect our natural and cultural resources.

For over 50 years, Ka‘ala Farm has demonstrated that when communities are supported to mālama ‘āina, we build both environmental and community resilience.

We respectfully urge the Legislature to support HB 1800 and fund these recommendations.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Georgette Nohea Stevens, Admininstrator

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/31/2026 9:22:40 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sherry Pollack	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I urge the Committee to **oppose any funding to the State's Military and Community Relations Office (MACRO)**. A bill earlier this session that would have appropriated funds to the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism through the MACRO to "strengthen intergovernmental coordination for military and defense activities" drew 300 testifiers in strong opposition, making it abundantly clear that the community does not want our tax dollars used for this purpose, especially considering that the military budget is already grossly bloated.

A watchdog group recently revealed in what some are calling "**Lobstergate**," Pentagon spending that included $6.9 million on lobster tails, $2 million on Alaskan king crab, and $15.1 million on ribeye steak. Moreover, based on reports regarding the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 budget, the Department of War has $1.42 Trillion in budgetary resources. All this while at the same time States are facing deep cuts in federal funding for Medicaid and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), amounting to hundreds of billions in cuts.

I strongly oppose squandering our tax dollars towards further militarization of Hawai‘i. We have to envision a future that does not revolve around U.S. military dominance and control. Instead, we need to support workforce development and opportunities that will **improve** life here. Our funds should be allocated to build and bolster sectors that our residents desperately need—research and development on clean transportation, building materials, energy autonomy, food sovereignty, and climate change resilience. The military is touted as an economic boon in Hawai‘i, but that viewpoint overlooks the military's extractive presence, environmental damage, and other harmful behaviors. Investing in the "defense" sector only seems like a valuable opportunity because the State is not investing enough in creating other opportunities. The State should not be directing its limited funds to feed into the most well-funded agency in the country. Period. Our taxpayer dollars should be used to support **real** economic opportunities that actually benefit our communities.

I find it particularly troubling that one of MACRO's declared intentions, as noted in SB3240, is to seek "strategic coordination" to integrate the exposure of students in grades kindergarten through high school and beyond, toward a "direct-to-career pathway", and "to align workforce development with Hawai‘i's evolving industrial and defense-related needs." This is insidious, and reminiscent of what occurred in Nazi Germany during Hitler's rise to power. Treating our education system as a vehicle for indoctrination is something the legislature should be protecting us from, not enabling.

Bottom line, with the cuts to federal funds supporting safety-net programs, our legislature should use our limited funds to address the critical needs of our communities, and not syphon off money that will be used in a manner that violates the core values of our state. **I urge the Committee to vote NO on funds to MACRO.**

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/31/2026 9:31:56 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Andrea Laramie	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Native Resources and Fire Protection Program - Forestry Division (LNR 402/DA)

1. Allocate an additional $1,600,000 in general funds for Fiscal Year 2027 to support the Endangered Forest Bird Mosquito Abatement Project. This funding aims to implement targeted mosquito control measures, including larviciding with Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis (Bti) and adult mosquito trapping with specialized UV-light traps, in critical habitats such as kipuka and native forest reserves. The goal is to protect native bird populations, including endangered Hawaiian honeycreepers such as the Kaua'i ‘Amakihi and the Iiwi, from mosquito-borne diseases like avian malaria and avian pox.

2. Allocate an additional $1,600,000 in general funds for Fiscal Year 2027 to bolster efforts in protecting and recovering Hawai'i's native bird species by preserving and restoring habitats, plus utilizing humane strategies to address invasive species of flora and fauna that have displaced or killed native birds.

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/31/2026 9:31:56 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Andrea Laramie	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Native Resources and Fire Protection Program - Forestry Division (LNR 402/DA)

1. Allocate an additional $1,600,000 in general funds for Fiscal Year 2027 to support the Endangered Forest Bird Mosquito Abatement Project. This funding aims to implement targeted mosquito control measures, including larviciding with Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis (Bti) and adult mosquito trapping with specialized UV-light traps, in critical habitats such as kipuka and native forest reserves. The goal is to protect native bird populations, including endangered Hawaiian honeycreepers such as the Kaua'i ‘Amakihi and the Iiwi, from mosquito-borne diseases like avian malaria and avian pox.

2. Allocate an additional $1,600,000 in general funds for Fiscal Year 2027 to bolster efforts in protecting and recovering Hawai'i's native bird species by preserving and restoring habitats, plus utilizing humane strategies to address invasive species of flora and fauna that have displaced or killed native birds.

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/31/2026 9:46:37 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gary Hooser	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

03/31/26

To: WAM Chair Dela Cruz and Members

Re: HB1800 and related issues - testimony and questions

I am offering this testimony today to encourage the WAM Committee to aggressively support publicly funded elections AND to oppose the use of State funds for any programs or initiatives related to the expansion of U.S. military operations or weapons manufacturing in Hawaii.

Further, I am requesting clarification from this Committee on the amount of State funding that has already been provided to the Military and Community Relations Office (MACRO) since its creation on April 1, 2024.

Accordingly to publicly available documents, MACRO, which is attached to DBEDT has since inception received $8,010,646 in funding from the U.S. Department of Defense for a "period of performance" that extends to February 28, 2027.

According to the MACRO website posted December 1, 2025 - "MACRO recently secured $650,000 from the State Legislature…"

According to MauiNow March 6, 2025 - the State budget allocated "$650,000 in both fiscal years for the Military and Community Relations Office"

According to DBEDT, their mission statement goals include "Leverage $650,000 in legislative funding to implement education and training programs aligned with defense industry needs." AND "Train or engage at least 500 students statewide through STEM, Cyber, and Trades programs aligned with defense industry workforce needs."

I have spent considerable time reviewing both 2025 and 2026 budget drafts that have been presented to the legislature, however I've been unable to locate or identify the $650,000 referenced by MACRO, DBEDT, or MauiNow.

Both SB3240 and HB2235 failed to pass through the legislative process.

Both measures contained references to MACRO and clearly intended to provide funding of a similar amount, for the same purpose outlined by DBEDT and MACRO. SB3240 received over 300 pages of opposing testimony with less than 10 in support.

I respectfully request clarification from this Committee the status of any State funding for MACRO.

Has State funding for MACRO been provided in the past? If so, when, how much, and from what source?

Is there any State funding for MACRO presently designated in the budget but not yet approved or released? If so, where might that budget item/provision be located?

Mahalo in advance for your assistance in answering the above questions AND I urge the Committee to oppose using State funds in support of MACRO or any programs or initiatives related to the expansion of U.S. military operations or weapons manufacturing in Hawaii.

Sincerely,

Gary Hooser

Private citizen speaking on my own behalf

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/31/2026 9:53:11 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michal Fentin Stover	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose the use of State funds to increase the presence of the U.S. military in Hawai‘i. Please do not fund the State’s Military and Community Relations Office. Please do not take any actions that would increase munitions production in Hawai‘i.

I support education, healthcare, environmental protection and other programs that will truly benefit our residents.

LATE

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/31/2026 10:53:18 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Daniel R Freund	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

There is never a bad time for good government. **Please include funds for publicly funded elections** and take one step toward leveling the political playing field between the ultra-wealthy and the rest of us.

Also, now is not the time to fund the Department of *War*. Let's take a fresh look at it when it is, once again, a Department of *Defense*.

- Dan Freund, Kapaa

LATE

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/31/2026 10:58:11 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessica Kuzmier	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I am writing with regards to the state budget. Please make sure that you prioritize healthcare with regards to whatever loopholes have been made with the loss of Medicaid and the ACA, food security with regards to local food initiatives and social safety nets such as SNAP, and the environment pertaining to real renewable energy like solar and wind, biodiversity, biosecurity, climate change and conservation above all else. I would also like it if a significant fund is set aside to create a reserve so that the counties can start funding municipal recycling and municipal composting so all people, including in urban areas, rural areas, and those without transportation can participate in composting and recycling and we can cut down on waste and instead use it for something better. Mahalo for your consideration.

LATE

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/31/2026 11:10:06 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Darryl Nordstrom	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I stongly support budgeting for education, healthcare, environmental protection, good governance initiatives and publicy funded elections.

I OPPOSE any funding for the states Military and Community Relations Office (MACRO)

You all make the rules and if needed you can change the rules.

Please always act in ways that benefit the good people of our state.

Mahalo,

Darryl Nordstom

LATE

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/31/2026 11:49:02 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Samuel Case	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm in full support of $1,600,000 being added to the FY 27 general fund for the Endangered Forest Birds Mosquito Abatement Project to protect the native bird populations from mosquitoes.

I support $1,600,000 being added to the FY 27 general fund to support the protection and recovery of Hawai‘i‘s native birds from mosquito-borne avian malaria and other existential threats.

Hawai‘i‘s native forest birds are found nowhere else on earth and they are integral to the health and heritage of Hawai‘i. Protecting these native birds helps to protect our native forests, and our human communities rely on healthy forests and watersheds. We must honor and protect our native species and island ecosystems.

LATE

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/31/2026 1:17:14 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sonia Vallocchia	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support allocating $1,600,000 to the FY27 general fund to support efforts to protect and recover Hawai‘i’s native birds from mosquito-borne avian malaria and other significant threats to their survival.

LATE

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/31/2026 2:00:13 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Paul Radley	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm in full support of $1,600,000 being added to the FY 27 general fund for the Endangered Forest Birds Mosquito Abatement Project to protect the native bird populations from mosquitoes.

I also support $1,600,000 being added to the FY 27 general fund to support the protection and recovery of Hawai‘i‘s native birds from mosquito-borne avian malaria and other existential threats.

Hawai‘i‘s native forest birds are found nowhere else on earth, and they are integral to the health and heritage of Hawai‘i. Protecting these native birds helps to protect our native forests, and our human communities rely on healthy forests and watersheds. It is our obligation to protect our native species and island ecosystems.

Thank you,

Paul Radley

LATE

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/31/2026 2:18:53 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Faith Bellas	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support $1,600,000 being added to the FY 27 general fund for the Endangered Forest Birds Mosquito Abatement Project to protect the native bird populations from mosquitoes.

I support $1,600,000 being added to the FY 27 general fund to support the protection and recovery of Hawai‘i‘s native birds from mosquito-borne avian malaria and other existential threats.

Hawai‘i‘s native forest birds are found nowhere else on earth and they are integral to the health and heritage of Hawai‘i. Protecting these native birds helps to protect our native forests, and our human communities rely on healthy forests and watersheds. We must honor and protect our native species and island ecosystems.

LATE

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/31/2026 2:21:40 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bruce L Hultgren	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Ways and Means Committee members,

I realize there is a great deal in the budget. I would respectfully request that any taxpayer/state funding for MACRO that might be inserted be removed. This is a bad idea. The military has not always been the best citizend and I see no reason to give them this kind of sounding board and entree to our children. The people of Hawaii shoud not pay for this.

I would ask that you include major provisions for health care assistance for our citizens, and for education. If there are problems with DOE, work on that, but cutting funding to schools is madness.

Thankk you,

Bruce L Hultgren MD

LATE

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/31/2026 3:26:19 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Goodwin	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To: Chair of WAM and Committee Members,

Please allocate the budget to include these paramount priorities affecting Hawaii's citizens' public life:

Education

Healthcare

Protection of our Hawaii Islands' Environment

"Good Governance" initiatives

Last, but not least, publicly funded elections

And, continue to OPPOSE FUNDING for MACRO SB3240 ! !

Michael Goodwin and Sharon Goodwin

Kapa`a Homesteads, Kaua'i

LATE

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/31/2026 5:27:19 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cristina Holt	Individual	Comments	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and members of the Committee,

My name is Cristina Holt. I am a resident of Hilo, Hawaii Island, a small business owner, and a community organizer. I am submitting this testimony today for two purposes.

First, I urge this Committee to aggressively support publicly funded elections in Hawaii. A government that is insulated from the influence of large donors is a government that can actually serve its people. That work matters deeply and I hope this Committee will treat it accordingly.

Second, and the primary focus of this testimony, I am urging this Committee to oppose any use of state funds for the Military and Community Relations Office, or MACRO, and I am formally requesting that this Committee provide the public with a clear accounting of whether any state funding for MACRO has already been appropriated, allocated, or released, and if so, from what source, in what amount, and under what authority.

The people of Hawaii have been asking this question for months. We deserve an answer.

What MACRO Is and Where It Came From

MACRO was established on April 1, 2024, by Governor Josh Green in partnership with the U.S. Department of Defense. It is housed within the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism as an attached agency. According to documents obtained through public records requests, the Pentagon's Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation awarded $3,192,198 to DBEDT on September 26, 2023, before MACRO formally existed. The principal investigator named on that grant was John Greene, then serving as DBEDT's Defense Industry Specialist. Greene later became MACRO's Deputy Director. He is an active U.S. Navy Reserve Lieutenant Commander with 32 years of service. In a March 25, 2026 interview on Hawaii News Now, he stated on camera, "I'm still in the Navy." In the same interview, he also claimed that MACRO does not work for the Department of Defense.

As of June 2025, MACRO has received $8,010,646 in total federal Pentagon funding, with a period of performance extending through February 28, 2027. MACRO's own website states: "The Military and Community Relations Office was established on April 1, 2024, and is fully federally funded."

The Missing $650,000

Despite that statement, the public has been told repeatedly that MACRO has also secured $650,000 in state legislative funding.

MACRO's own website posted December 1, 2025 states: "MACRO recently secured $650,000 from the State Legislature to advance STEM, cybersecurity, and trade workforce development in K-12 schools, preparing students for careers in engineering, technology, and defense manufacturing."

A March 6, 2025 Maui Now article reported that the House Finance Committee's draft budget allocated "$650,000 in both fiscal years for the Military and Community Relations Office."

DBEDT's own Act 100 Report for 2026, a document covering goals for Calendar Years 2026-2030, states under Goal 1 that DBEDT intends to "Leverage $650,000 in legislative funding to implement education and training programs aligned with defense industry needs" and to "Train or engage at least 500 students statewide through STEM, Cyber, and Trades programs aligned with defense industry workforce needs."

I have spent considerable time reviewing both the 2025 and 2026 budget drafts presented to the legislature. I cannot locate this $650,000 appropriation anywhere in any enacted budget document. I cannot find it in HB 1800. I cannot find it in Act 250, Session Laws of Hawaii 2025. I cannot find a MACRO line item under BED, DBEDT, or any other program code in any version of the state budget I have been able to access.

The bills specifically designed to appropriate state funds to MACRO did not pass.

SB 3240, which would have appropriated state funds to DBEDT for MACRO, passed the Senate 24-1 after a Ways and Means committee vote that took approximately seven seconds with zero public discussion. It was then referred to the House Committee on Public Safety. By the time the House heard it on March 16, 2026, the public had caught up. Over 600 pages of testimony were submitted. 292 individual and organizational submissions came in, the overwhelming majority in opposition, representing 25 organizations against and fewer than 10 total in support. The bill was killed by House Public Safety Chair Belatti on March 18, 2026. She cited public pressure, the state's fiscal situation, and the fact that the military has plenty of its own funding.

HB 2235, the companion House bill with the same intent, passed out of committee with a 7/1/2050 effective date signaling it was held for further discussion, and currently sits in House Finance unheard.

So the standalone bills failed. And yet MACRO and DBEDT continue to reference $650,000 in state legislative funding as if it exists.

This Committee is in a position to answer that question definitively. I am asking you to do so.

What MACRO Actually Does With Its Money

It is worth being specific about what this office does, because the framing of MACRO as a benign workforce development and community relations office does not survive contact with the actual documents.

Documents obtained through public records requests reveal that MACRO has a contract with Becker Communications, Inc., a Honolulu-based PR firm, for $390,000, executed October 1, 2025, following a competitive sealed proposal process in which Becker was the only bidder. The contract is funded by Pentagon dollars flowing through DBEDT.

The scope of services in that contract includes requiring Becker to "utilize automated data scraping tools to collect and analyze relevant public commentary from news sites, blogs, forums, and social media platforms to assess evolving sentiment toward military-related issues and MACRO initiatives." In other words, public social media commentary from Hawaii residents about military issues is being systematically scraped and analyzed using Pentagon money, without disclosure to the public.

The contract also requires Becker to draft legislative testimony for MACRO with a 24-hour turnaround, approximately 20 times per legislative session. Pentagon-funded contractors are writing state legislative testimony on demand. That is a direct and undisclosed influence on Hawaii's lawmaking process.

The contract further reveals that Becker has ghost-written op-eds placed under third-party names to amplify MACRO messaging. Among the writing samples submitted with Becker's 2025 proposal is an op-ed attributed to LTG (Ret.) Frank Wiercinski, former Commanding General of U.S. Army Pacific, arguing that Hawaii must allow the Army to retain its land leases ahead of the 2029 Pohakuloa renegotiations. That op-ed was written by MACRO's Pentagon-funded PR firm and placed under a retired general's name. That is astroturfing. It is the manufacture of the appearance of independent community support for military land retention, paid for by the Pentagon, operating through a state agency.

Why 2029 Matters

Military leases on land taken in the illegal overthrow of the Hawaiian Kingdom come up for renegotiation in 2029. Pohakuloa Training Area on Hawaii Island sits on 23,000 acres of state ceded lands. The military has documented depleted uranium contamination at Pohakuloa that it denied for years. The Board of Land and Natural Resources rejected the Army's Environmental Impact Statement in 2025. Dozens of Native Hawaiian organizations oppose fast-tracking new lease agreements.

MACRO sits on the Governor's Advisory Committee for Military Leased Lands, the body that will advise the state on those negotiations. An office created by the Pentagon, funded by the Pentagon, staffed in part by an active Navy officer, is now positioned to advise the state on whether to renew leases with the Pentagon. That is not a community relations office. That is a conflict of interest operating inside state government.

The manufactured economic dependency MACRO exists to create, the workforce pipeline, the sentiment management, the ghost-written op-eds, the social media surveillance, the K-12 STEM programs targeting public school students for defense careers, all of it is designed to ensure that by the time 2029 arrives, Hawaii's political and economic landscape has been shaped to make resisting those lease renewals feel impossible.

We see it. And we are naming it.

On the State's Fiscal Situation

Hawaii is facing significant budget shortfalls. Federal funding cuts are threatening MedQuest, SNAP, public education, and essential services for our most vulnerable residents. In that context, the use of state funds to support a Pentagon propaganda operation, or to co-sign that operation through any form of state budget line item, is not just a policy disagreement. It is a betrayal of the people this budget is supposed to serve.

This Committee has a responsibility to ensure that every dollar in HB 1800 serves Hawaii's residents, not the Pentagon's public relations agenda.

My Requests to This Committee

I am asking this Committee to do three things.

One: Provide a clear, public, on-the-record accounting of whether any state funding for MACRO has been appropriated, allocated, or released since its founding on April 1, 2024. If yes, how much, from what source, under what authority, and for what purpose. If the $650,000 referenced by MACRO, DBEDT, and Maui Now exists somewhere in the budget, the public deserves to know where it is.

Two: Oppose the inclusion of any state funding for MACRO in HB 1800 or any related budget provision. The military has $8 million of its own money in this office already. Hawaii taxpayers should not be asked to fund Pentagon propaganda, K-12 defense pipelines, social media surveillance, or ghost-written op-eds designed to shape public opinion about military land leases on Native Hawaiian land.

Three: Support publicly funded elections. The people of Hawaii need a government that works for them. That starts with removing the outsized influence of large donors from our political process.

The communities who showed up in opposition to SB 3240, who resubmitted testimony after a rescheduled hearing with no notice, who flooded committee members with calls and emails, who made videos and shared them and got their neighbors to show up, those people are watching this budget process too. We know the bills can be killed and the money can still find its way through. We are paying attention.

Mahalo for your time and your service to the people of Hawaii.

Respectfully submitted,

Cristina Holt Hilo, Hawaii Island

LATE

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/31/2026 8:42:28 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ian Sherman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm in full support of $1,600,000 being added to the FY 27 general fund for the Endangered Forest Birds Mosquito Abatement Project to protect the native bird populations from mosquitoes.

I support $1,600,000 being added to the FY 27 general fund to support the protection and recovery of Hawai‘i‘s native birds from mosquito-borne avian malaria and other existential threats.

Hawai‘i‘s native forest birds are found nowhere else on earth and they are integral to the health and heritage of Hawai‘i. Protecting these native birds helps to protect our native forests, and our human communities rely on healthy forests and watersheds. We must honor and protect our native species and island ecosystems.

LATE

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 3/31/2026 8:42:52 PM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anika Larson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm in full support of $1,600,000 being added to the FY 27 general fund for the Endangered Forest Birds Mosquito Abatement Project to protect the native bird populations from mosquitoes.

I support $1,600,000 being added to the FY 27 general fund to support the protection and recovery of Hawai‘i‘s native birds from mosquito-borne avian malaria and other existential threats.

Hawai‘i‘s native forest birds are found nowhere else on earth and they are integral to the health and heritage of Hawai‘i. Protecting these native birds helps to protect our native forests, and our human communities rely on healthy forests and watersheds. We must honor and protect our native species and island ecosystems.

LATE

HB-1800-HD-1
Submitted on: 4/1/2026 7:52:25 AM
Testimony for WAM on 4/1/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lynne Caraway	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Just a reminder that we are the State of Aloha. Now is the time for our representatives to act like it and provide funding for those areas that are most important, education, housing, health care. In order to ensure that the people of this state, not special interests, you should also be supporting good governance initiatives and publicly funded elections. Thank you