



**Department of Land and Natural Resources
Aha Moku Advisory Committee
State of Hawaii
Post Office Box 621
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809**

LATE

Testimony of
Aha Moku Advisory Committee

House Committee on Water, Land & Hawaiian Affairs

Friday, February 8, 2019
8:30 a.m.
Conference Room 325

Relating to the Aha Moku Advisory Committee

House Bill 1094 appropriates funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for the operations of the Aha Moku Advisory Committee. It appropriates funds to hire an expert on natural and physical environment to serve in a full-time equivalent position on the committee. **The Aha Moku Advisory Committee (AMAC) supports this measure with amendments.**

Since the restoration of the Aha Moku Process by the Legislature in 2012, via Act 288, §171.4-5, the AMAC has successfully strived to bring the voices of the communities and 'ohana of ahupua'a districts forward to work with Hawai'i government in addressing and sustaining the natural and cultural resources of our Pae' Aina. We are attached to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) administratively, which means all funding is channeled through DLNR but the operations of the AMAC and the Aha Moku Process do not come under the jurisdiction of DLNR. This collaboration has been successful because AMAC has that autonomy. Through this venue, our people have been able to collaborate with government to address critical issues that are important to their communities.

Under the Aha Moku Process, a traditional land and ocean management system restored from the translation of oral chants of the 9th century, each of the eight main Hawaiian Islands have, through their ahupua'a and moku representatives collaborated with and mitigated natural and cultural issues of concern with the different branches and divisions of the DLNR and other branches of Hawaii government. The people's voices are brought forward with detailed concerns about the natural and cultural resources of the site-specific areas within their ahupua'a. There are 46 traditional moku and 606 ahupua'a within the Pae' Aina, State of Hawaii. Each one is distinctly unique in geography, cultural practices, environment, ecosystem and natural and cultural resources. To coordinate these issues with the people and the different DLNR divisions, as well as other government agencies and non-government organizations (NGO's) takes a skill set that is far beyond the description of the expert on natural and physical environment that is proposed in this draft.

Under Act 288 the AMAC hires the Executive Director to coordinate and assist the Committee in

- 1) Integrating indigenous resource management practices in each moku;
- 2) Identifying a comprehensive set of indigenous practices for natural resource management;
- 3) Fostering the understanding and practical use of native Hawaiian resource knowledge, methodology, and expertise;
- 4) Sustaining the State's marine, land, cultural, agricultural, and natural resources;
- 5) Providing community education and fostering cultural awareness on the benefits of the aha moku system;
- 6) Fostering protection and conservation of the State's natural resources; and,
- 7) Developing an administrative structure that oversees the aha moku system.

These mandates are diligently pursued by the Executive Director who can manage this by working closely with the Po'o of each Island, the moku representatives and the ahupua'a representatives as well as understanding the mandates and focuses of each DLNR Division. It is a demanding and challenging position that carries the kuleana of the people with it.

The AMAC offers this recommendation to amend Section 2 of HB 1094 with portions of the original language crossed out and new language inserted that is **bold and underlined**.

Section 2. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii:

- (1) The sum of ~~\$20,000~~ **\$50,000** or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 and the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for the general operations of the aha moku committee; and
- (2) The sum of ~~\$25,000~~ **\$100,000** or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 and the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 to fund one full-time equivalent (1.00 FTE) permanent position within the natural and physical environment program (LNR906) to serve **as the Executive Director for the Aha Moku Advisory Committee and Aha Moku process as mandated in Act 288, SLH 2012, §171.4-5.**

The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department of land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.

On behalf of the Aha Moku Advisory Committee (AMAC) and the participants of the Hawaii State Aha Moku Process, including Moku and Ahupua'a Representatives, we humbly ask that House Bill 1094 be passed by the House Committee on Water, Land and Hawaiian Affairs to include the amendments stated.

Respectfully yours,

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Attachments: Act 288 SLH 2012
§171.4-5



O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities

COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Rep. Ryan L. Yamane, Chair

Rep. Chris Todd, Vice Chair

DATE: Friday, February 8, 2019

TIME: 8:30 a.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 325, State Capitol

RE: HB 1094 Relating to the Aha Moku Advisory Committee

To the Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Chair; the Honorable Chris Todd, Vice Chair; and Members of the Committee on Water, Land, and Hawaiian Affairs:

The O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities (OCCLP) of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i (DPH) hereby submits its testimony in **SUPPORT of HB 1094 relating to the Aha Moku Advisory Committee.**

HB 1094 appropriates funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for the operations of the Aha Moku Advisory Committee. HB 1094 appropriates funds to hire an expert on natural and physical environment to serve in a full-time equivalent position on the committee.

The aha moku advisory committee was established in 2012 to advise on land and resource management through the aha moku system, a set of best practices based on indigenous knowledge and methodologies. The aha moku system and the aha moku advisory committee help to ensure responsible stewardship of the State's resources, including its land, watersheds, fishponds, and sea.

Native Hawaiians are the indigenous people of Hawai'i and deserve a just relationship with the State and Federal Governments. DPH supports the growth of Native Hawaiian farming, agricultural and healing practices. DPH values and wishes to foster the preservation of our host culture. We support the efforts of Native Hawaiians to pursue self-determination. DPH also supports their right to pursue the international rights of Native Hawaiian people.

DPH acknowledges the past injustices and the misguided, harmful Federal and State policies and actions based on outdated and discredited values and beliefs that resulted in the destruction of the Hawaiian Nation's economies, social, and religious systems, the taking of their lands, and the creation of intergenerational trauma that exists to this day. DPH believes that we have a moral and profound duty to honor, respect, and uphold our sacred obligation to the Hawaiian Nation State and the Hawaiian people.

DPH also supports efforts for self-governance and self-determination of Native Hawaiians whose values are the foundation of the Hawaiian Islands. DPH supports proactive actions by the Federal and State governments to enhance Native Hawaiian culture, health, language, and education. DPH recognizes and honors the contributions and sacrifices made in service to our county by Native Hawaiians.

DPH supports the continued engagement and empowerment of the Native Hawaiian community in decisions related to county and state affairs.

DPH supports educational programming and efforts that embody Hawaiian values, language, culture and history as a foundation to prepare students for success in college, career and communities. *Democratic Party of Hawai'i Platform (2018), p. 15, ln. 32-50, p. 16, ln. 3-4.*

For the foregoing reasons, i.e., to support educational programming and efforts that embody Hawaiian values, language, culture and history, OCCLP supports HB 1094 and urges its passage out of the Committee on Water, Land, and Hawaiian Affairs.

Mahalo nui loa
Me ka `oia`i`o

/s/ Melodie Aduja

Melodie Aduja

Chair, O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i

Ph. (808) 258-8889

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HB-1094

Submitted on: 2/6/2019 11:36:56 AM

Testimony for WLH on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Davlantes	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-1094

Submitted on: 2/7/2019 5:33:09 PM

Testimony for WLH on 2/8/2019 8:30:00 AM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Donna K Santos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am a Native Hawaiian from Kaua'i and I support AMAC, as amended.

todd1 - Harrison

From: THE808PEOPLE :D <dvierra22@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 7, 2019 9:04 PM
To: WLHtestimony
Subject: HB1094 AhaMoku Appropriation Bill



Aloha,
My

I, Darlyne Vierra a representative for MokuO Ka'u, Mokupuni O Keawe(Hawai'i).it is long overdue and Ka'u support HB1094 Appropriation Bill.this is very much needed in our Moku Nd our Mokupuni O Hawai'i

Mahalo NYU loa,Ka'u,Darlyne Vierra
Sent from my iPhone

todd1 - Harrison

From: Jamie Kawauchi <jami.kawa@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 7, 2019 10:49 PM
To: WLHtestimony
Subject: Strongly Support HB1094



Aloha mai e kakou,

I strongly, support HB1094 as Aha Moku AdvisoryCommittee, AMAC as amended!

Mahalo nui for your support!

Me Ke Aloha Pumehana,

Jamie

Jamie M. Kawauchi
P.O. Box 573
Naalehu, Hawaii 96720
jami.kawa@gmail.com

todd1 - Harrison

From: Elizabeth Kuluwaimaka <konawaileo@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 7, 2019 11:52 PM
To: WLHtestimony
Subject: HB1094



Aloha,

My name is Elizabeth Kuluwaimaka, Aha Moku representative of Ka'u, Moku o Keawe. I support as AMAC has amended, HB1094.

Mahalo,
Elizabeth Kuluwaimaka

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)