

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/1/2022 11:13:37 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Saumalu Mataafa | KIRC Commissioner | Support | No |

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice-Chair Branco, and Committee members:

Please support the KIRC's continued efforts to help restore Kaho'olawe.

Thank you,

Saumalu Mataafa

KIRC Commissioner



KŪKULU KE EA A KANALOA
KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

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. NĀHO'OPT'I
Executive Director**

Before the House Committee on

WATER & LAND

**Thursday, February 3, 2022
9:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 430**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1577
RELATING TO THE KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION**

House Bill 1577 appropriates funds for the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission and to fund two full-time equivalent positions for the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission. The Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) strongly supports this measure.

In Act 340, the creation of the KIRC and Hawaii Revised Statute Chapter 6K in 1993, the legislature found that “the extensive erosion and other ecological problems, presence of unexploded ordnance, archaeological sites and native and endangered flora and fauna that a management regime was needed to meet the challenges of restoring and presenting the island”.

Since the end of the Navy's unexploded ordnance cleanup in 2004, the KIRC has begun a race against time to stem erosion and further degradation of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve. The KIRC has since initiated numerous restoration projects, financed by state funds and various grant opportunities, that has made significant changes to transforming the desolate hardpan into vibrant living landscapes.

The KIRC first began receiving state general funds in the administration's budget in the fiscal year 2018-2019 biennium budget. The initial funding supported 15 FTE staff and operating funds for our Maui office and Kihei Boathouse. In fiscal years 2019 and 2020, the KIRC Cultural Resource Project Coordinator position was restored and \$100,000 in operating funds were added but subsequently were eliminated due to the impact of COVID on the State's economy in fiscal years 2021 and 2022. The KIRC is requesting additional operating funds and personnel to support our efforts to restore the island, protect endangered and rare flora and fauna and ensure the safety of visitors to Kaho'olawe.

The key to the KIRC's restoration efforts is the volunteer workforce that we bring to Kaho'olawe to help with native out plantings, erosion control construction and invasive weed eradication.

The additional funds will finance key support services such as operating the Kaho`olawe base camp facilities, generating power and water, and maintaining vital infrastructure, equipment and vehicles. The additional funds will also support critical safety systems such as medical supplies, safety equipment and emergency transportation.

The additional KIRC positions are critically vital as the KIRC has observed a recent increase in unpredictability and severity of weather and ocean conditions in the waters surrounding Maui and Kaho`olawe most likely due to climate change and global warming, which has resulted in an increased need for additional manpower to safely and effectively operate the KIRC ocean vessel. Additionally, our Kaho`olawe field teams also need additional field support as we have been successful in expanding our restoration efforts to create more native dryland forest habitats, expand beach restoration and shoreline protection efforts, cultivate food sustainability and increase on-island water generation, collection, storage and distribution systems.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR

GLORIA CHANG
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

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

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

WRITTEN ONLY
TESTIMONY BY CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND
ON
HOUSE BILL NO. 1577

February 3, 2022
9:30 a.m.
Room 430 and Videoconference

RELATING TO THE KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) offers comments on this bill.

House Bill No. 1577 authorizes two permanent positions and appropriates \$572,000 in general funds in FY 23 to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission to restore, preserve, and determine the appropriate uses of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve.

B&F notes that, with respect to the general fund appropriation in this bill, the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act requires that states receiving Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) II funds and Governor's Emergency Education Relief II funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

Further, the federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires that states receiving ARP ESSER funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

The U.S. Department of Education has issued rules governing how these maintenance of effort (MOE) requirements are to be administered. B&F will be working with the money committees of the Legislature to ensure that the State of Hawai'i complies with these ESSER MOE requirements.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/1/2022 4:38:36 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Michele McLean | County of Maui | Support | No |

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Branco, and Committee Members,

Please accept this testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of HB 1577 to provide funding support for the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC). I worked on the KIRC staff for approximately five years and then served as Chair of the Commission for eight years, and so I can attest from first-hand experience that the KIRC knows how to make the most of any funding it has. The work that the staff can and does perform with limited resources and a difficult physical environment is nothing short of miraculous. Their dedication to the restoration and preservation of the Kahoolawe Island Reserve and its natural and cultural resources is exemplary. This funding request would be a very responsible use of taxpayer dollars and deserves your support.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Michele McLean, AICP

Planning Director, Maui County

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Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
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Shane M. Sinenci
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura



Director of Council Services
Traci N. T. Fujita, Esq.

Deputy Director of Council Services
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.MauiCounty.us

February 1, 2022

TO: Honorable David A. Tarnas, Chair
House Committee on Water and Land

FROM: Alice L. Lee
Council Chair

DATE: February 1, 2022

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT FOR HB 1577, RELATING TO THE KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND
RESERVE COMMISSION**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to provide funding for the Kaho'olawe island reserve commission, including two full-time equivalent permanent positions.

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 **SUPPORT** this measure for the following reasons:

1. The island of Kaho'olawe provides significant cultural and historic importance to the native people of Hawai'i and Maui residents.
2. Due to extensive safety issues and ecological, archaeological, and other environmental concerns, specialized management is needed to effectively meet the unique challenge of addressing continued revitalization and appropriate use for the island.
3. This bill would appropriate funds to the department of land and natural resources for the Kaho'olawe island reserve commission to effectively accomplish their work of restoring, preserving, and evaluating appropriate use of the island.

For the foregoing reasons, I **SUPPORT** this measure.



Feb 1, 2022

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Pacific American Foundation
C/O Bay View Golf Park
45-285 Kāne'ohe, Bay Drive,
#102 Kāne'ohe, HI 96744

Phone: (808) 664-3027

www.thepaf.org

Rep. David A. Tarnas
Chair, Water & Land Committee and Members
State House of Representatives
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Tarnas and Members of the House Water & Land Committee,

My name is Herb Lee, Jr. and I am the President & CEO of the Pacific American Foundation. We have been a long-time community and educational partner with KIRC and currently serve as a fiscal sponsor for certain of their projects.

I urge you to pass HB1577. I am in full **SUPPORT** of this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i. Funding will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho`olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of land, ocean and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to Makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods. I respectfully ask you to please **PASS** HB1577.

Me ka ha'aha'a,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Herb Lee, Jr.", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Herb Lee, Jr.
President & CEO

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/1/2022 11:44:57 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| Jodie R Rosam | Pulama Mau Environmental Consulting | Support | No |

Comments:

Dear Members of the House Water and Land Committee,

I respectfully urge you to pass HB1577. I am in full **support** of this measure to provide essential financial and staff support to the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho‘olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai‘i’s people for generations to come. This funding is necessary for the hard-working KIRC folks to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving, and managing the appropriate and safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai‘i. Funding will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho‘olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage, and develop the next generation of land, ocean, and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resources management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods.

I respectfully ask you to please **pass HB1577**.

Mahalo,

Jodie Rosam

Pūlama Mau Environmental Consulting

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/1/2022 12:01:16 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Hokulani Holt-Padilla | Kauahea Inc. | Support | No |

Comments:

Dear Members of the House Water & Land Committee,

I urge you to pass HB177. I am in full SUPPORT of this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving, and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i. Funding will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho`olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of the land, ocean, and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to Makai volunteer program. My years of interaction with Kaho`olawe have shown me how important it is to our State and to the Lāhui. Individuals and groups have been positively changed through their time with Kaho`olawe Kanaloa. I respectfully ask you to please PASS HB1577.



Hawai'i's voice for wildlife
Kō Hawai'i o nā holoholona lōhiu

**Before the Senate Committees on
Agriculture**

**Friday, February 4, 2022
10:00am**

State Capitol, Conference Room 325, Via Videoconference

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1987
RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES**

Conservation Council For Hawaii **SUPPORTS HB1577**. This measure provides additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i. Funding will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho`olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of land, ocean and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer our **SUPPORT of HB1577**.

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/1/2022 10:04:58 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Lopaka White | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Thank you supporting the restoration efforts of Kaho`olawe.

Eo Kanaloa!

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/1/2022 10:07:22 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Carmela Noneza | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

It takes patience, passion and dedication for KIRC staff to do the work they do. Volunteers have played a major role in supporting their efforts, but volunteer numbers have been reduced because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Yet, the KIRC continues to holomua doing the best that they can with the limited resources that they have.

I fully support this bill.

Me ka ha'a ha'a,

Carmela Noneza

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/1/2022 10:17:38 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| bruce watson | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

I urge you to pass HB177. I am in full SUPPORT of this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i. Funding will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho`olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of land, ocean and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to Makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods. I respectfully ask you to please PASS HB1577.

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/1/2022 10:24:09 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Benjamin Guerrero | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Dear Members of the House Water & Land Committee,

I urge you to pass HB177. I am in full **SUPPORT** of this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i. Funding will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho`olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of land, ocean and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to Makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods.

I spent four days there on a cultural and restoration visit and it was life changing. The work there is vital and it is only continued "cleaning up" of the mess the US military left behind. There are valuable artifacts and cultural spots that need to be restored and protected so that one day, people will be able to reside there again safely, and learn more about the people who lived there in the past. I respectfully ask you to please **PASS** HB1577.

Thank you,

Benjamin Guerrero

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/1/2022 10:30:18 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Cassandra L. Smith | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Dear Members of the House Water & Land Committee,

I urge you to pass HB1577. I am in full SUPPORT of this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i. Funding will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho`olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of land, ocean and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods. I respectfully ask you to please PASS HB1577.

Mahalo for your time,

Cassie Smith

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/1/2022 10:39:23 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| C. Kauai Lucas | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Dear Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Branco, Members of the House Committee on Water & Land,

HB1577 has my full **SUPPORT**. This measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i.

Funding will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho`olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of land, ocean and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to Makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods.

A few years ago I had the opportunity to visit Kaho'olawe with KIRC, and can personally attest to the great strides they have made in conservation under very difficult conditions. Kaho'olawe is an invaluable cultural and scientific place of learning.

I respectfully ask you to please **PASS** HB1577.,

me ka pono,

Kauai Lucas

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/1/2022 11:03:19 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Heather Quintana | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Aloha e Members of the House Water & Land Committee,

I am writing in full SUPPORT of HB177. Providing additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe is a worthwhile investment. The immersive, hands-on experience within the KIRC's cooperative natural and cultural resource management system incorporates both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods. I have had the privilege of personally experiencing their programs, and believe it is a powerful force in shaping the next generation of cultural stewards, and natural resource conservationists. Both are badly needed to help preserve our way of life, and our home. I respectfully ask you to please pass HB1577.

Mahalo nui,

Heather Quitnana

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/1/2022 11:15:51 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Nathan Nishimura | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Dear Members of the House Water & Land Committee,

I urge you to pass HB177. I am in full SUPPORT of this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i. Funding will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho'olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of land, ocean and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to Makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods. I respectfully ask you to please PASS HB1577.

Thank you,

Nathan Nishimura

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/1/2022 11:35:31 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Anela Evans | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Aloha mai e Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Branco and the House Committee on Water and Land,

Thank you for your willingness to consider this measure that requests funding for the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC). The additional funding for more staff positions will allow the KIRC to continue their committment to the restoration and revegetation of Kaho‘olawe. I continue to have the amazing opportunity for the past 17 years to volunteer on Kaho‘olawe with both the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana (PKO) and the KIRC. I also had the privilege to work full-time for the KIRC for two years. Throughout those 17 years, I have seen the progression and growth of the island as it recovers from over 100 years of devastation - beginning with the introduction of ungulates and then continuing with the U.S. Navy's bombing of the island.

The KIRC staff members are some of the most hardworking and talented individuals that I’ve ever had the opportunity to work with. Many of them are versatile in their knowledge and perform many diverse tasks. For example, many of us, while hired to perform duties such as a marine biologist or a restoration specialist, also assisted in boat operations necessary to transport volunteers, food, and fuel to the island.

I would like to strongly urge you to please support HB1577. The KIRC's role in the restoration of Kaho‘olawe and their mission of Kūkulu ke ea a Kanaloa is critical to the success and growth of our ‘āina and our people. Aloha.

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/1/2022 12:20:03 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Michael Walker | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Dear Members of the House Water & Land Committee,

I urge you to pass HB177. I am in full SUPPORT of this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i. Funding will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho`olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of land, ocean and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to Makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods. I respectfully ask you to please PASS HB1577.

Thank you,

Michael Walker

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/1/2022 12:34:16 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Larry Stevens | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

I support KIRC and this legislation.

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/1/2022 1:13:21 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Kylee Mar | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Support

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/1/2022 2:00:57 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Sam Ohu Gon III | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Eo e ke kino o Kanaloa i ka la'i! Kāko'o kēia iā 'oe e kohe mālamalama i ke kai malino.

Imua!

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/1/2022 2:27:59 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Molly Mamaril | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Aloha Members of the House Water & Land Committee,

I hope you are well. I urge you to pass HB177. I am in full SUPPORT of this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i. Funding will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho`olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of land, ocean and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to Makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods. I respectfully ask you to please PASS HB1577.

Mahalo nui for your consideration,

Molly Mamaril

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/1/2022 3:24:57 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Kimo Cashman | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Dear Members of the House Water & Land Committee,

I urge you to pass HB1577. I am in full SUPPORT of this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i. Funding will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho`olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of land, ocean and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to Makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods. I respectfully ask you to please PASS HB1577.

Thank you,

Kimo A. Cashman, PhD

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/1/2022 4:19:24 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Tambara Garrick | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Aloha Members of the House Water & Land Committee,

I am writing in support of HB177. I am in full support of this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i. Funding will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho`olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of land, ocean and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to Makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods. I respectfully ask you to please PASS HB1577.

Mahalo,

Tambara Garrick

resident of Lahaina, Maui

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/1/2022 8:15:51 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Kyle K Kajihiro | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Kaho‘olawe is a model for how to restore and mālama degraded ‘āina, especially ‘āina contaminated by military activities. It is also a model for Hawaiian cultural revitalization. With the many lands in Hawai‘i damaged by military activities, such as Mākua and now Kapūkaki / Red Hill, we need sites like Kaho‘olawe as a laboratory for restoration techniques. I urge full support for HB1577. Mahalo for your consideration.

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/1/2022 8:43:10 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Barbara Barry | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Aloha,

Please support HB 1577,

Mahalo,

Barbara Barry

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/1/2022 9:46:21 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Megan Lamson | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

We kāko‘o our hardworking friends at the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to secure funding to support their field operations and fill two new field staff hires as proposed in HB1577. The KIRC team has made great strides in restoring the kino of Kanaloa, but in order for them to continue to protect the natural and cultural resources of Kaho‘olawe, sustainable funding is needed. Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Please vote ‘ae for this upcoming WAL (Waters & Lands) committee meeting!

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/2/2022 5:48:45 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| johann winkler | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Dear Members of the House Water & Land Committee,

I urge you to pass HB1577. I am in full SUPPORT of this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i. Funding will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho`olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of land, ocean and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods. I respectfully ask you to please PASS HB1577.

Thank you, Johann Winkler

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/2/2022 6:15:07 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| pookela hanson | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Dear Members of the House Water & Land Committee,

I urge you to pass HB1577. I am in full SUPPORT of this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i. Funding will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho`olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of land, ocean and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods. I respectfully ask you to please PASS HB1577.

Thank you, pookela

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/2/2022 8:02:50 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Joshua Kaakua | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Branco, and members of the Committee of Water & Land,

Please accept this testimony in **strong SUPPORT** of HB1577. Cultural, land, and natural resource protection and responsible stewardship is a must-do investment for our community - it's in our bones and aligns with where we want to be. The Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commissions (KIRC) staff led by ED Nahoopii represent some the best in the state. Amazing work on a shoestring budget. Deserving of WTL support.

Mahalo.

Joshua Kaakua

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/2/2022 8:18:51 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Dean Tokishi | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Dear Members of the House Water & Land Committee,

I urge you to pass HB177. I am in full SUPPORT of this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i. Funding will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho'olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of land, ocean and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to Makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods. I respectfully ask you to please PASS HB1577.

Thank you,

Dean

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/2/2022 8:24:47 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Ann Fahl | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

To the Members of the House Water & Land Committee,

Concerning HB1577 for additional support for Kaho‘olawe continuing restoration.

Please support this request for additional funding. I am a retired Master Gardener, artist, and was born in the Kapiolani Maternity Hospital many years ago. This large project for a little island can have a big impact on Hawaii its culture and the world. KIRC is trying to restore it to its natural state to encourage native plant growth and provide habitat for creatures on land, air, and water. Many volunteers and donors are working hard to clear debris and plant large areas on the island to restore and improve it. Many ideas and ways to make this happen could affect and inspire other projects around the world. The Hawaiian people, students and visitors will learn about Hawaiian culture while seeing Kaho‘olawe develop. This is important to me, and I live in Wisconsin! It is important for Hawaiians forever.

Thank you.

Ann Fahl

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/2/2022 8:44:05 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Jan Becket | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Dear Members of the House Water & Land Committee,

I am a retired Kamehameha teacher (27 years) and was born in Hawai'i. I urge you to pass HB1577. I am in full SUPPORT of this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i. Funding will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho`olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of land, ocean and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods. I respectfully ask you to please PASS HB1577.

Thank you,

Jan Becket

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/2/2022 8:45:53 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Matt Hatakeyama | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Good Morning House Members,

On behalf of myself, Matt Hatakeyama as a citizen of Maui County, I publicly support HB1577 to add \$500,000 in general funds for operations and \$72,000 in general funds to add 2 FTE positions. From the fire in February 2019 to present day, the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission or KIRC been hit with insurmountable financial damage. I would estimate the fire caused millions of dollars in damage and undid many decades of KIRC's hard work. Financial losses added up with the COVID-19 pandemic. Adding General Funds for operations and additional personnel will give KIRC the fighting chance they need to continue the good work of restoring Kaho`olawe.

Thank you for reading my testimony,

Matt Hatakeyama

February 2, 2022

Dear Members of the House Water & Land Committee,

I urge you to pass HB1577. I am in full **SUPPORT** of this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i. Funding will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho`olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of land, ocean and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods. I respectfully ask you to please **PASS** HB1577.

Thank you,

Rob Lee, CCMSgt (ret), USAF/HIANG

Central Michigan University Alum, Wayland Baptist University Alum, James B. Castle H.S. Alum

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/2/2022 9:16:08 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Michelle Pescaia | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

I urge the members of this committee to SUPPORT the proposed HB1577 to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. While our state faces many critical challenges of economic stability and ensuring public health and safety, caring for our 'āina of Kaho`olawe not only fulfills our kuleana to rehabilitate this island, it also serves to bolster the spirits of our people, especially in a time where once again our trust in the relationship between the people of Hawai'i and the US military is threatened. WE know how to mālama our islands. We exhibit it by committing our resources to protect, preserve and sustain Hawai'i in these fundamental ways. Healthy 'āina ensures healthy people. Please support the funding necessary to carry out this mission. Mahalo.

Thank you,

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/2/2022 9:19:26 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Ann Marie Kirk | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Please support this important legislation to provide additional financial and staff support to the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commision.

Mahalo for your consideration!

Aloha,!

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/2/2022 9:26:02 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Tapani Vuori | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Dear Honorable Chair and The Council,

I strongly support HB1577 relating to Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission.

Kanaloa is the Piko of Hawaii Nei. I have seen firsthand the struggle by KIRC and the community to help restore Kanaloa. The physical task seems daunting and overwhelming and is exacerbated by the lack of funding. To me also as important is the mindset change that needs to happen in our wider community of the significance and importance of this island. I meet visitors, kama'aina and tourists alike in the Kaho'olawe exhibit here at Maui Ocean Center and I witness emotions and deep feelings coming out daily. I would argue that even more meaningful and larger amount of funding is required to support KIRC in their Mission to restore Kanaloa. Thank you.

Tapani Vuori

c.808.561.2022

tvuori@mauiocenter.com

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/2/2022 9:29:41 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Manuel Kuloloio | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Aloha Hawaii House Committee on Water and Land Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Branco, and Committee Representatives Ganaden, Kobayashi, Kong, Morikawa, Ohno, and McDermott:

I write seeking your support for HB1577 to fund the good and continuing work of the uncommon Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission to protect, to restore, and to meaningfully use Kaho'olawe Island and the surrounding waters for cultural, educational, and scientific opportunities and purposes.

WE thank you for your time, consideration, and support of this uncommon mission of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission and your over 28+ years of unwavering support to bring Kanaloa Kaho'olawe HOME to the people of Hawaii, resting Title and Control of Access from the United States Navy.

E leha aku au i ko'u mau maka i na mauna,

Malaila mai ko'u kokua e hiki mai ai.

Mai Iehova mai ko'u kokua,

Nana no i hana i ka lani, a me ka honua.

Halelu 121: 1-2

Aloha Ke Akua,

Manuel Wayne Makahiapo DeCosta Kuloloio

Kuloloi'a Ohana, Honua'ula, Maui



Restore the Commons

Thursday, February 3, 2022, 9:30 am

House Committee on Water and Land

HOUSE BILL 1577 – RELATING TO KAHO'OLAWE RESERVE ISLAND COMMISSION

Position: Support

Me ke Aloha, Chair Tarnas, Vice-Chair Branco, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land

It may be you need to be an alumnus of the Kaho'olawe restoration project to understand and really feel the spirit of mālama 'āina that motivates this Hawaii ohana. The vibe is extraordinary, very moving, and the staff so dedicated, the volunteers so joyous. It's something you need to experience. From appreciating the navigational setting to healing the landscape to feeling the spirit of the ancestors, it is a mana we can all keep alive with this same spirit of solidarity.

The program operates on a shoestring, one of the best bargains for our taxpayer dollars you can find. Every additional bit of infrastructure and staffing is multiplied many times over by the good will and gracious generosity of contributing partners. We are Hawaii. Mahalo for your support!

Mahalo for the opportunity to address this issue,

/s/ Charley Ice, Hoa'āina; Kahoolawe service alumnus, and 40-year activist in the Democratic Party

**Building the new normal with People and Land: Food Security Health Care Public Banking
Regenerating Soils Cutting Waste Eliminating GHG emissions**

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/2/2022 9:38:35 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Marty Martins | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

For 2 years prior to the covid shutdown, I was a docent at the Kaho‘olawe exhibit at the Maui Ocean Center. Thousands of people go thru the aqaurium complex everyday and I can attest to the many people who are interested in, and generally ignorant of, the history of Kaho‘olawe, both by the time they spent at the exhibit but also the number who approached me or one of the other docents with additional questions.

Similarly, I have been to the island twice with volunteer work crews were we happily took part in clearing, planting, erosion control, and various other chores while we learned anout the island or shared our knowledge with others.

Funding for field operations would be used, in addition to other improvements, for replacing expensive vehicles and equipment lost in the fire two year ago.

Thank you for any consideraton you give to this important legislation.

Kaho‘olawe has an important part in the pre-contact history of Hawai‘i and part of this funding would be used to re-hire a cultural advisor to aid in our educational efforts and outreach, and part for another staff position.

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/2/2022 10:20:54 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Tracey Aquino | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Dear Members of the House Water & Land Committee,

I urge you to pass HB1577. I am in full **SUPPORT** of this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i. Funding will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho`olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of land, ocean and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods. I respectfully ask you to please **PASS** HB1577.

Thank you,

Tracey Aquino

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/2/2022 11:17:49 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Michele Harman | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Dear Members of the House Water & Land Committee,

I urge you to pass HB1577. I am in full SUPPORT of this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho'olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. I was lucky enough to have been to the island twice and I can't fully express the profound impact that the place and staff had on me. Kaho'olawe must be restored, protected, and shared in an appropriate manner as it deserves.

This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i. Funding will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho'olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of land, ocean and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods. I respectfully ask you to please PASS HB1577.

Mahalo for your time and for all that you do, Michele harman

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/2/2022 2:20:38 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Robert Cole | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Please fund this request for KIRC, it is a valuable program and will help in healing the aina.

Dear Elected Official and Policy Maker,

I am writing to you today, in concern for the funding for Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission. I stand in full support of Director Michael Naho'opi'i, and his efforts to sustain the KIRC funding.

I find myself disheartened, when I see that he must consistently struggle to find funding for the important conservation and ecological work, that must take place on Kaho'olawe, due to devastating destruction by the Navy.

KIRC desperately needs your help securing appropriations for supplies, manpower, and maintenance of motorized vehicular transportation for use both at sea, and on land.

KIRC constantly needs funds for the following reasons, to buy the supplies needed to maintain planting restoration and conservation efforts, to maintain housing facilities of staff and volunteers, to supply food and basic survival materials for the workers and volunteers, and to be able to all maintain mechanical workings that keep the jobs running, not to mention countless other costs that accrue when restoring an entire island.

I am asking you, as my elected representative, to hear me now, and pass this message on to the people you work with. Go to them, and describe KIRC's yearly, no, daily plight, to secure funding for these and more important items. Please be the person that I am glad I voted for and use your persuasive powers to reach across party lines, to get all legislators to cast their votes for all bills, that protect the status quo, and/or increase the funding for Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission. Please make informed speeches to colleagues, and hold discussions with your peers, to explain why KIRC needs to keep a personnel team of highly qualified professionals. Elaborate, when necessary, that these are the people who staff the core team, responsible for keeping the island in the positive direction toward a goal of total restoration.

It is important to continue to provide funding that enables KIRC to invite teams of volunteers to Kaho'olawe. Their volunteer program provides a necessary part of the work force on the island. A steady flow of these volunteers is imperative to keep KIRC in working order, to accomplish the goals they have set. Volunteers work with the staff, to perform the laborious tasks of repairing the

island. As a volunteer, I am devoted to the health of these Hawaiian Islands, and I possess the love for Kaho'olawe, as do countless others. Our families are witnesses to the action we take today, and for generations to come. Please do your part to honor the will of future generations who strive to repair the island from the devastation. Hawaiians were witnesses to its destruction and are the resource of volunteers who feels the urgency to take part in its restoration.

Therefore, I am urging you to **vote in support of Bill HB1577**, and get involved in helping KIRC's scientists, cultural practitioners, Hawaiian people, passionate natural conservationists like myself, and countless talented people, who vow to do whatever it takes to restore Kaho'olawe Island to its natural condition: flourishing in native Hawaiian flora and fauna.

Thank you for reading my letter of concern. Please vote in support of KIRC's quest for financial security at every opportunity. I know I will be observing your courage and fortitude in our futures.

Sincerely,

Pamela Zirker

6406 Kawaihau Rd.

Kapa'a, Kaua'i, HI,

96746

Phone (808) 821-1350

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/2/2022 4:45:10 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Edmund Clark | Individual | Comments | No |

Comments:

Honorable Members of the House Water and Land Committee

I encourage continued support for KIRC through HB1577 and other measures. My personal experience as a Hawaii resident is that KIRC staff has been working in various ways so the Island can provide benefits to the people of Hawaii.

A specific example, KIRC has set up a permit system whereby sport fishermen can obtain a permit to troll the waters near the Island 4 days a month. Some changes to the method by which these days are selected would improve boater safety and reduce the weekend load on the Maui boat ramps. With KIRC having adequate staffing, its people will be able to work with local fishermen like me to manage its marine resource to better benefit all Hawaiians able to fish its waters. Your support for HB1577 is needed.

HB-1577

Submitted on: 2/2/2022 5:00:03 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/3/2022 9:30:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Remote Testimony Requested |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| Phil Herres | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

Dear Members of the House Water & Land Committee,

I have worked as a volunteer on the island and have come to understand how much more work and support is needed. Therefore, I urge you to pass HB177. I am in full **SUPPORT** of this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i. Funding will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho`olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of land, ocean and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to Makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods. I respectfully ask you to please **PASS** HB1577.

Thank you,

Phil Herres