LINDA LINGLE





STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

TESTIMONY OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

on House Bill 3348, House Draft 2 - Relating To Historic Preservation

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TAXATION

March 11, 2008

House Bill 3348, House Draft 2 appropriates an unspecified amount of funds to the Hawaii Preservation Fund endowment, as administered by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, in cooperation with the Historic Hawaii Foundation. While the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) recognizes and appreciates the work and support of the Historic Hawaii Foundation, the Department nonetheless has concerns with the fiscal impacts this measure will have on the Executive Supplemental Budget request. The Department instead, respectfully asks the Committee to support the Department's Supplemental Budget request, which allocates funds to the Department's Historic Preservation Division, to support historic preservation across the State.

Position requests include two Compliance Specialists, which will provide accurate project intake and classification, consistent data base maintenance and help ensure timely responses to public inquiries, as well as, a Librarian to maintain the State Historic Preservation Division libraries on all islands and provide a consistent filing system for reports.

Additional money is requested for reinternment of iwi in the State Inventory on all islands. The funding will allow the department to purchase burial vaults and to pay for labor to reinter the iwi. The Department is also requesting lease rent monies for Hawaii Island staff, which lost its Kona office space and is in need of a permanent office.

From: Kiersten Faulkner [Kiersten@historichawaii.org]

Sent: Friday, March 07, 2008 8:08 AM

To: testimony

Subject: EDT hearing March 11, Support for HB3348

VIA EMAIL: testimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

To: Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair

Senator Will Espero, Vice-Chair

Committee on Economic Development and Taxation

From: Kiersten Faulkner

Executive Director, Historic Hawai'i Foundation

Committee Date: Tuesday, March 11, 2008

1:15 pm

Conference Room 224

Subject: Support of HB3348, Relating to Historic Preservation

On behalf of Historic Hawai'i Foundation (HHF), I am writing in support of HB3348 HD2. Since 1974, Historic Hawai'i Foundation has been a statewide leader for historic preservation. HHF works to preserve the unique architectural and cultural heritage of Hawai'i and believes that historic preservation is an important element in the present and future quality of life and economic viability of the state.

Historic Hawai'i Foundation supports HB3348 HD2, which would capitalize a Hawai'i Preservation Fund with Historic Hawai'i Foundation, in association with the National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP), up to \$500,000 as matched by private sector contributions.

NTHP is a national nonprofit organization chartered by Congress. It currently administers a spend-down preservation fund for projects in Hawai'i. The Hawai'i Preservation Fund, established through a gift from Historic Hawai'i Foundation in 1998, is anticipated to be depleted by the end of 2008, leaving Hawai'i projects to compete for limited unrestricted national dollars.

HB3348 HD2 will help to establish a permanent Hawai'i Preservation Fund. The State funding will be leveraged by private contributions, including a lead gift of \$100,000 from a generous donor. Creating a perpetual endowment for the Hawai'i Preservation Fund will create a dedicated funding stream for preservation projects in the state, which will then provide a catalyst for preservation activities and leverage additional investment from private sources.

The Hawai'i Preservation Fund will increase the viability of individual preservation projects by providing grants to nonprofit and government organizations to support cultural heritage resource protection efforts in Hawai'i. Grants may be used for planning and assessment, education and interpretation, and stabilization, rehabilitation and restoration of historic sites. These kinds of grants have proven to be an effective way to foster community-based efforts to save important landmarks, to initiate neighborhood or community-wide programs that reinforce sense of place, and to reuse historic buildings for contemporary needs. Helping to strengthen Hawai'i's historic fabric is also a benefit for the growing reliance on heritage tourism and cultural travel.

Therefore, Historic Hawai'i Foundation urges your support for HB3348 HD2 to capitalize the Hawai'i Preservation Fund.

Kiersten Faulkner, AICP Executive Director Historic Hawai'i Foundation 680 Iwilei Road Suite 690 Honolulu, HI 96817 808-523-2900 (tel) 808-523-0800 (fax) Kiersten@historichawaii.org www.historichawaii.org

From: Kiersten Faulkner [hhfd@lava.net]
Sent: Friday, March 07, 2008 8:16 AM

To: testimony

Cc: Sam Cooke; Cooke Mary

Subject: HB3348 testimony to EDT Committee, March 11

Please see the testimony below, submitted on behalf of Sam Cooke, 521-6700 or samcooke@aloha.net

VIA EMAIL: testimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

To: Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair

Senator Will Espero, Vice-Chair

Committee on Economic Development and Taxation

From: Samuel A. Cooke

2859 Mānoa Road, Honolulu, HI 96822

Committee Date: Tuesday, March 11, 2008

1:15 pm

Conference Room 224

Subject: Support of HB3348, Relating to Historic Preservation

The uniqueness of Hawai'i comes from its special places, distinct culture and layered history. Like the flora and fauna that exist nowhere else on earth, Hawai'i's historic buildings, landscapes and cultural sites are irreplaceable. There is simply no replacement for Hawai'i's authentic and special places.

It takes many people working together to ensure that the historic places we use and enjoy today will be here for future generations. The fabric of Hawai'i is more than a monumental building here or there. It is the places of everyday experience—neighborhoods, main streets, schools, churches and shops—as well as the places where the great moments of history took place. To ensure that the special places of the Islands are preserved, used and enjoyed, all people need to have access to the tools that make historic preservation possible and affordable.

These are the goals for the Hawai'i Preservation Fund: to provide both technical assistance and increased resources to caretakers and owners of Hawai'i's historic sites, to make preservation accessible and more financially viable. In addition to the State funding, a generous donor has committed a lead gift of \$100,000 to leverage the State's contribution.

Additional benefits from the Hawai'i Preservation Fund include the advantage for heritage tourism, which is traveling to experience the places, artifacts and activities that authentically represent the stories and people of the past and present. Heritage tourists include travelers who incorporate at least one visit to a historic site or landmark among other activities, and also a smaller subset of visitors whose primary reason for traveling is to visit historic places. Economic impacts of heritage tourism go beyond the direct expenditures of tourists. Each dollar spent at a hotel, restaurant or retail shop circulates in the economy as an indirect expenditure for wages, supplies and contracts. Past studies have shown that heritage travelers spend more, stay longer and return more often.

Please support HR3348 to capitalize the Hawai'i Preservation Fund.

From: Millie Kim [millie@lava.net]

Sent: Friday, March 07, 2008 1:34 PM

To: testimony

Subject: HB3348, HD2 hearing

VIA EMAIL:

To: Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair Committee on Economic Development and Taxation

From: Millie Kim, Island of Hawaii

Committee Date: Tu

Tuesday, March 11, 2008

1:15 pm

Conference Room 224

Subject: Support of HB3348 HD2, Relating to Historic Preservation

I am in support of HB3348 HD2 which would capitalize a Hawaii's Preservation Fund with Historic Hawai'i Foundation, in association with the National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP), with up to \$500,000 as matched by private sector contributions.

As a member of the Board of Advisors for National Trust for Historic Preservation, former chair of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, and former big island member of the Hawaii Tourism Authority, I cannot emphasize enough how much we desperately need to do more to preserve the State's heritage and culture, now more than ever before. Given the increasing rate of change in Hawaii, the amount of resources for the preservation of heritage sites, features, structures, oral histories, with interpretive materials of quality and authenticity, - - should also increase be increasing commensurately if we value our self identity, but it hasn't. Destruction of local landscapes need not be the only way to deal with "progress".

Without a strong continuing sense of identity and a history that is alive and well, there will be no "Hawaii" left. This is what has kept visitors coming back to Hawaii more than industry marketing. More than 65% of visitors are repeaters on their 5th or 6th visit annually, and more than 50% go directly to the neighbor islands. It is the uniqueness of the state's heritage and the ways in which this is being maintained and preserved for both resident and visitor alike that stokes the visitor industry. Both resident and visitor therefore benefit enormously.

So "heritage tourism" is much more than a niche tourism activity. It serves the community in a positive way, and Hawaii should be known around the world, as a visitor showcase of authenticity, presented with quality presentation, of a people's unique history. This is not cheap, which is why measures like this can go a long way in preserving as much of old hawaii as we reasonably can. I don't want Hawaii to look like "anywhere, USA" - - because it isn't.

Please support HR3348 HD2 to capitalize the Hawai'i Preservation Fund. Mahalo.

VIA EMAIL:

To: Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair

Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair

Committee on Economic Development and Taxation

From: Lani Ma'a Lapilio

Committee Date: Tuesday, March 11, 2008

1:15 pm

Conference Room 224

Subject: Support of HB3348 HD2, Relating to Historic Preservation

I am in support of HB3348, HD2, which would capitalize a Hawai'i Preservation Fund with Historic Hawai'i Foundation, in association with the National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP), with up to \$500,000 as matched by private sector contributions.

As a member of the National Trust for Historic Preservation Board of Advisors and executive committee member, Historic Hawai'i Foundation advisor, former executive director of the Judiciary History Center, and native Hawaiian Bar Association member, I strongly believe that this fund will be an important vehicle to help meet our preservation needs in Hawaii which is as enormous as they are diverse. The goals for this fund are to provide both technical assistance and increased resources to caretakers and owners of our historic sites to make preservation accessible and more financially viable. Hawai'i has many places of historical and cultural importance and the results of this program will mean that more places will be saved, more people will be engaged in the preservation movement and life in our community will be greatly enhanced. This permanent fund will expand preservation projects and field service delivery in the state and will leverage new preservation dollars. The state and local organizations that participate will achieve more preservation results.

The goals of this fund also includes support for Heritage Travel which is critical to Hawai'i and a large part of the national preservation picture. The fund will seek to protect our cultural treasures by building awareness of places, create jobs and opportunities and strengthen local economies. We really need to do more to preserve the State's heritage and culture for the benefit of our keiki today and tomorrow. Please support HR3348 HD2 to capitalize the Hawai'i Preservation Fund. Mahalo nui loa.

From: Curt Nakamura [cnakamura@topa.com]

Sent: Monday, March 10, 2008 9:27 AM

To: testimony

Subject: Support of HB3348 HD2, Relating to Historic Preservation

To: Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair

Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair

Committee on Economic Development and Taxation

From: Curt Nakamura

Committee Date: Tuesday, March 11, 2008

1:15 pm

Conference Room 224

Subject: Support of HB3348 HD2, Relating to

Historic Preservation

I am writing in support of HB3348 HD2, which would capitalize a Hawai'i Preservation Fund with Historic Hawai'i Foundation, in association with the National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP), with up to \$500,000 as matched by private sector contributions.

HB3348 HD2 will help to establish a permanent Hawai'i Preservation Fund. The State funding will be leveraged by private contributions.

Creating a perpetual endowment for the Hawai'i Preservation Fund will create a dedicated funding stream for preservation projects in the state, which will then provide a catalyst for preservation activities and leverage additional investment from private sources.

The goals for the Hawai'i Preservation Fund are to provide both technical assistance and increased resources to caretakers and owners of Hawai'i's historic sites, to make preservation accessible and more financially viable. Additional benefits from the Hawai'i Preservation Fund include the advantage for heritage tourism, which is traveling to experience the places, artifacts and activities that authentically represent the stories and people of the past and present. Heritage tourists include travelers who incorporate at least one visit to a historic site or landmark among other activities, and also a smaller subset of visitors whose primary reason for traveling is to visit historic places. Economic impacts of heritage tourism go beyond the direct expenditures of tourists. Each dollar spent at a hotel, restaurant or retail shop circulates in the economy as an indirect expenditure for wages, supplies and contracts. Past studies have shown that heritage travelers spend more, stay longer and return more often.

Please support HR3348 HD2 to capitalize the Hawai'i Preservation Fund. Thank you.

Curt Nakamura Historic Hawaii Foundation Board Member NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

VIA EMAIL: <u>testimony@Capitol.Hawaii.gov</u> Submit 5 copies

March 10, 2008

The Honorable Carol Fukunaga, Chair
The Honorable Will Espero, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Economic Development and Taxation

RE: Support for HB3348, Relating to Historic Preservation

Dear Chairperson Fukunaga and Vice Chairperson Espero:

On behalf of the more than 500 Hawai'i members of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, I am writing in support of HB3348, which would capitalize the Hawai'i Preservation Fund to support efforts to preserve Hawai'i's unique architectural and cultural heritage.

Since receiving our charter by Congress in 1949, the National Trust has worked with preservation advocates in communities across the country to save historic places and to revitalize older downtowns and neighborhoods. Currently, the National Trust administers the Hawai'i Preservation Fund to ensure that the state's unique history is preserved for the benefit of future generations – both local residents and visitors alike. Unfortunately, this fund, established through a gift from the Historic Hawai'i Foundation in 1998, is a "spend-down" fund and is anticipated to be depleted by the end of 2008.

In partnership with the Historic Hawai`i Foundation, we are seeking to establish a permanent endowment for the Hawai`i Preservation Fund. Leveraged by private contributions, including a \$100,000 lead gift, the endowed fund will be of lasting benefit to the heritage and peoples of Hawai`i. Preservation Fund grant awards are often the first dollars invested in a preservation project, helping local groups save the irreplaceable resources that help define a community. Preservation Fund grants also serve as a powerful and effective catalyst for fundraising and local involvement, leveraging, on average, an additional nine dollars of local investment for each dollar awarded.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on the importance of establishing a permanent endowment fund to preserve Hawai'i's unique heritage. Please support HB3348 to capitalize the Hawai'i Preservation Fund.

Sincerely,

Emily Wadhams

Vice President for Public Policy

National Trust for Historic Preservation

cc: Kiersten Faulkner, Executive Director, Historic Hawai'i Foundation Mary M. Cooke, National Trust Trustee Lani Ma'a Lapilio, National Trust Advisor Anthea Hartig, National Trust Western Office March 10, 2008

Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair Members of the Committee on Economic Development and Taxation

VIA EMAIL: testimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

Re: In support of HB3348 HD2, Relating to Historic Preservation Committee Date: Tuesday March 11, 2008, 1:15 p.m., Room 224

Dear Senator Fukunaga:

I am writing on behalf of the Hawai`i Capital Cultural District Coalition in support of HB3348 HD2, which would capitalize a Hawai'i Preservation Fund with Historic Hawai'i Foundation, in association with the National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP), up to \$500,000 as matched by private sector contributions.

Creating a perpetual endowment for the Hawai'i Preservation Fund will provide a dedicated funding stream for preservation projects in the state, which will then provide a catalyst for preservation activities and leverage additional investment from private sources. This strategy has been used very successfully elsewhere in the US. This fund will help to preserve and protect our priceless and irreplaceable heritage by providing technical assistance and resources to make preservation accessible and more financially viable for owners and caretakers of historic properties. Safeguarding the architecture, objects, and sites that "tell the stories" of Hawai`i's history and its people is extremely important to cultivating an understanding of and appreciation for our very special heritage by residents, visitors, and future generations. Once our heritage is lost, it can never be replaced.

In addition to aesthetic and cultural benefits, states that have invested in their historic assets have also derived economic benefits including an influx of heritage tourism dollars, creation of jobs, attraction of new economy businesses and workers drawn to communities with a strong sense of place, and community revitalization.

The Hawai'i Capital Cultural District coalition is a nonprofit partnership of more than 60 arts and cultural organizations, businesses, public agencies, and individuals who are working collaboratively to nurture and promote the magnificent concentration of Hawai'i's cultural, historic and natural resources located in central Honolulu. The organization's mission is to enhance our quality of life and generate economic development through our cultural assets by: preserving our rich heritage through education and conservation, nurturing our arts and cultural institutions, and promoting appropriate cultural and heritage tourism.

Sincerely,

Lorraine Lunow-Luke HCCD Coordinator



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