# TESTIMONY SB2340 LATE

## LATE TESTIMONY

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Monday, February 22, 2010 1:10 PM

To: Cc: WTLTestimony Sen. Jill Tokuda

Subject:

Testimony in support of S.B. 2340 - Relating to Kaneohe Bay Regional Council

Aloha to Senator Clayton Hee, Chair, Senator Jill Tokuda, Vice-Chair, and Members of the Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs.

I send you greetings from the Ko'olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club.

The Ko'olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club supports Senate Bill 2340 in that it will repeal the sunsetting of the Kane'ohe Bay Regional Council that was to have occurred July 1st of this year.

We are concerned, however, that the bill changes the meeting and reporting requirement of the council from quarterly meetings to annual meetings; and from semi-annual reports to annual reports.

We would like to recommend that the bill recognize the volunteer Kane'ohe Bay Regional Council Task Force, a group of volunteers who support the mission and objectives of the K-Bay Regional Council, as a support group to provide advice and assistance to the Council throughout the year.

In this way, the volunteer group can meet whenever ocean resource concerns arise; and they can convey those concerns to the Department of Land and Natural Resources and to the Kane'ohe Bay Regional Council as needed for further action.

Mahalo for this opportunity to share our mana'o.

Ko`olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club P. O. Box 664 Kaneohe, HI 96744 Ph. (808) 226-4195

# LATE TESTIMONY

### Kaneohe Neighborhood Board #30 September 2009

Whereas in 1990 the Legislature of the State of Hawaii found that:

"Kaneohe Bay is a unique and treasured natural resource that must be preserved and protected for the continued enjoyment of the general public. The Bay is an extensive ecosystem that contains a unique estuary surrounded by barrier reefs that are unequaled in the world. Currently the Bay is heavily used by the general public, ocean and marine research programs and commercial ocean recreation operations, creating conflicting use situations. Use of Kaneohe Bay by commercial operators is a privilege and not an exclusive right. Therefore, in order to resolve the conflicting use problem, the legislature finds that a Master Plan should be developed which shall be use as the recommended guideline in the adoption and implementation of rules with regard to the regulation of all activities in Kaneohe Bay." (Act 208, SLH 1990); and

**Whereas** Act 208 Session Laws of Hawaii 1990 created the Kaneohe Bay Master Plan Task Force and requested that it "study and develop recommendations for a master plan for Kaneohe Bay"; (Act 208, SLH 1990); and

Whereas the Task Force was established by the Legislature to be comprised of eleven members including: The directors of the State Departments of Transportation, Health and Land and Natural Resources; the Director of the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology (HIMB); two representatives from Kane`ohe neighborhood board; two members from Kahalu`u Neighborhood Board; a representative from the commercial fishing industry; a representative from the commercial recreation industry; and the Commanding Officer, Marine Corps Air Station Kane`ohe; and

Whereas the Task Force articulated the purpose of the master plan to

"Preserve and protect the unique natural resources of Kaneohe Bay for the continued enjoyment of the general public;

Resolve conflicting use problems between recreational users of the Bay, the general public, and commercial recreation operations; and

Assess the environmental and ecological impacts of activities on the Bay."

(Kaneohe Bay Master Plan, 1992); and

Whereas the Kane`ohe Bay Master Plan Task Force, collectively and after extensive community input including an estimated 3700 hours of community volunteer time, developed and formally adopted all the recommendations contained in the Kaneohe Bay Master Plan 1992; and

Whereas the Kane`ohe Bay Master Plan called for the creation of a Kane`ohe Bay Regional Council; and

Whereas the Kane ohe Bay Regional Council was established with representation from the HIMB, the Kane ohe Neighborhood Board, the Kahalu Neighborhood Board, the commercial recreation operators, the fishing community, the recreational boating community and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs to:

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AGRICULTURE, AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

### HEARING ON S. B., 2340 RELATING TO KANEOHE BAY REGIONAL COUNCIL

### 22 February 2010

Chair Hee, Vice Chair Tokuda, and members of the Committee:

My name is Susan Miller. I urge the Committee to pass this bill out without amendment.

The Kaneohe Bay Regional Council was formed as a recommendation of the Kaneohe Bay Master Plan.

The mission of the Kaneohe Bay Regional Council is to advocate for implementation of the Master Plan, update the plan as needed, resolve conflicting uses in the Bay based on the Master Plan and educate the public about the Bay.

Mahalo for the opportunity to support this bill!

Susan Elliott Miller 1030 Aoloa Place, #102-B Kailua, Hl 96734 261-7580l

# TESTIMONY SB2340 LATE (END)