## DEPARTMENT OF WATER

County of Kauai

"Water has no Substitute - Conserve Iti"

February 17, 2010

Honorable Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair Honorable Senator Shan S. Tsutsui, Vice Chair and members of the COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS STATE SENATE State Capitol, Conference Room 224 415 South Beretania Street Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senators Kim and Tsutsui, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means:

Subject:

SB 2440, Relating to Boards of Water Supply – <u>Decision-Making Hearing: Thursday.</u>

February 18, 2010, 9:45 a.m. in Conference Room 211

The Kaua'i Board of Water Supply strongly supports SB 2440, which requests a change to HRS 54-25, to allow the Board of Water Supplys to prescribe its powers and duties to the Manager and Chief Engineer of the Departments of Water regarding the disbursement of funds. As it states now in the existing HRS 54-25, it is not clear whether the Board may or may not delegate its duties.

The Kaua'i Board of Water Supply, at its August 20, 2009 Board Meeting, approved these requested changes to amend H.R.S. Chapter 54-25 in order to allow the Board to delegate, what is in essence, a ministerial duty. H.R.S. 54-25, as written now, requires the Board, and only the Board, to approve or deny accounts payable vouchers. The Board's oversight is provided for, in accordance with the Department's budget process. H.R.S. 54-25, as currently written, serves to delay the accounts payable vouchers that must wait for Board approval before payment, which results in delayed payments to our vendors.

HB2449, which is the companion bill, was amended to require the Board if it wants to delegate to do it with rule and policy change. We have no objection to this amendment.

I strongly support the passage of SB 2440, Relating to the Boards of Water Supply, and thank you for this opportunity to provide comments.

If you need to contact me, please call (808) 245-5408, fax at (808) 246-8628 or email at dcraddick@kauaiwater.org.

Respectfully submitted.

David R. Craddick, P.E.

Manager and Chief Engineer

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