NEIL ABERCROMBIE





STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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WILLIAM J. AILA, JR. BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

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AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION LAND STATE PARKS

Testimony of WILLIAM J. AILA, JR. Chairperson

Before the House Committees on CULTURE & THE ARTS and HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

February 2, 2011 10:45 AM State Capitol, Conference Room 329

In consideration of **HOUSE BILL 1137** RELATING TO THE ARTS, CULTURE, AND HERITAGE

House Bill 1137 would change the name of the Works of Art Special Fund to an Arts, Culture, and Heritage Special Fund and expand the uses of the fund to include site modifications, display, interpretive work, and specific renovations and repairs for the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum, Iolani Place, and Washington Place for the period from July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2015. The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports the intent of this measure to provide additional funding support for these important historic buildings that play a key role in Hawaii's history, but defers to the appropriate affected agencies on impacts this bill will have on their respective programs.

The Department has management jurisdiction over Iolani Palace State Monument and oversees major construction projects for the repair, maintenance, and restoration of the palace building through the State's capitol improvement program budget. The daily operations for public visitation and the development of displays and interpretive projects are undertaken by the Friends of Iolani Palace (Friends) who have a long-term lease from the Department's Division of The Friends support their operations and projects through membership fees, State Parks. entrance fees, donations, and grants. Additional funding support would provide opportunities to expand interpretive programs for visitors and carry out renovation projects for the preservation of this significant historic building.