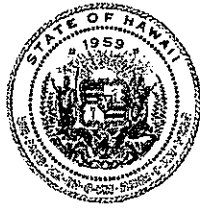


NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of  
WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.  
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on  
WATER, LAND, AND OCEAN RESOURCES**

**Friday, April 01, 2011  
10:30 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of  
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 173  
URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO WORK  
WITH MOANALUA GARDENS FOUNDATION TO EXECUTE A MEMORANDUM OF  
UNDERSTANDING FOR THE USE OF KAMANANUI (MOANALUA) VALLEY FOR  
EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL PURPOSES**

House Concurrent Resolution 173 urges the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to work with the Moanalua Gardens Foundation to execute a memorandum of understanding for the use of Kamananui (Moanalua) Valley for educational and cultural purposes. The Department does not support this resolution because it calls for actions that are currently within the intent and means of the Department to carry out and would create additional administrative and reporting burdens during a time of budget and staffing restrictions. The Department is a firm believer in partnership relationships with community stewards. The Department is agreeable to work with the Moanalua Gardens Foundation to enter into a stewardship agreement for the purpose of helping to protect and preserve Kamananui Valley for our mutual benefit and the benefit of all people of Hawaii.

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

**GUY H. KAULUKUKUI**  
FIRST DEPUTY

**WILLIAM M. TAM**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

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

To: COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND OCEAN RESOURCES

Representative Jerry L. Chang, Chair  
Representative Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair

Date: Friday, April 1, 2011; 10:30 AM

Subject: TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HCR 173

Submitted by: Alexander Alike Jamile, Executive Director and President, Moanalua Gardens Foundation

Aloha Chair Chang, Vice Chair Har, and committee members. My name is Alexander Alike Jamile, Executive Director and President of Moanalua Gardens Foundation. I am here to testify in **strong** support of HCR 173, **URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO WORK WITH MOANALUA GARDENS FOUNDATION TO EXECUTE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR THE USE OF KAMANANUI (MOANALUA) VALLEY FOR EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL PURPOSES.**

For 41 years, Moanalua Gardens Foundation (MGF) has served as a vital link in preserving and protecting our environmental and cultural resources, especially Moanalua Gardens and Kamananui (Moanalua) Valley. A non-profit organization founded in 1970, MGF was instrumental in protecting the valley from construction of the H-3 freeway thus preserving in perpetuity over 3,700 acres of land for the recreation and enjoyment of the people of Hawai'i.

Once closed for over a hundred years, Kamananui Valley was opened for public use in 2008. In just two short years, the popularity of this special place has grown significantly with an estimated 10,200 persons visiting the valley on an annual basis. During this time, MGF has been working with the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW) to make needed improvements to the valley to ensure the safety of our residents and visitors and to enhance their enjoyment of this stunning place.

In the past two years, MGF has secured \$75,000.00 in funding to produce and install interpretive signs, construct and install a new security gate at the entrance to the valley, and to grade, level and lay gravel on Kamananui Valley Road, the valley's main access route. Volunteer labor to install the signs and improve the road is estimated to be \$85,000.00.

As it has for the past 41 years, MGF is committed to continuing its stewardship of Kamananui Valley in concert with DLNR. However our prospects for obtaining funding for additional improvements are seriously compromised without a

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) from DLNR recognizing MGF's stewardship role.

The preservation of this last undeveloped valley in urban Honolulu is MGF's top priority. Over its 41-year history, MGF has served as the guardian of Kamananui Valley conducting cultural and educational programs in this sacred ahupua'a. MGF remains committed to help care for these lands. We are most willing to work with DLNR to ensure that this spectacular site is preserved for the people of Hawai'i and our future generations and humbly ask for your support of HCR 173.

Thank you all very much for your kōkua.

Mahalo nui loa,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alike Jamile". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

Alexander Alike Jamile  
Executive Director and President  
Moanalua Gardens Foundation