



Testimony to the House Committee on Water and Land And House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, and Hawaiian Affairs Friday, February 1, 2013; 8:00a.m. Conference Room 325 Speaking in Opposition to HB 938

RE: HOUSE BILL HB 938: Relating to the Kaho'olawe Reserve

Chairs Evans and Hanohano, Vice Chairs Lowen and Cullen, and Members of the Committees:

My name is Tim Lyons, Speaking for the Ocean Tourism Coalition. The OTC represents over 300 small ocean tourism businesses state wide. We are opposed to HB 938 as it is written.

We are especially concerned with the language of vessel seizure for violating Kaho'olawe regulations. There could be mitigating circumstances a vessel might experience a breakdown that would result in a violation which should be addressed with some intermediate levels of penalties before forfeiture.

We could possibly support this bill if there were language included that would have a graduated level of penalties that could culminate in forfeiture in egregious circumstances.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. If you have any questions, please contact me at 808-537-4308.

Sincerely,

Tim Lyons, Representing OTC Timllyons@cs.com