

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson

Before the House Committee on
WATER AND LAND

Monday, February 8, 2016
9:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1843
RELATING TO FRESHWATER RESERVOIRS

House Bill 1843 proposes to authorize the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department), working with the Department of Agriculture, to identify, purchase or rehabilitate freshwater reservoirs in central Maui to stock gamefish and provide water for farmers and aquaponics. **The Department appreciates the intent of this measure but is concerned that the appropriation could impact other priorities in the Executive Supplemental Budget request or any existing Department appropriated funding. The Department also provides the following comments.**

Developing, operating and maintaining reservoirs to support agricultural purposes are beyond the scope of the Department's mission. Therefore, the Department typically sets aside reservoirs to other agencies such as the Department of Agriculture, the Agribusiness Development Corporation and the Counties.

The Department acknowledges its support of freshwater reservoirs at Kokee, Kauai and Wahiawa, Oahu, which are on public and private lands with agreements in place for the Department to manage the reservoirs for recreational fishing. However, the Department is concerned about the long-term costs and administrative burden to manage, operate and maintain a reservoir system into perpetuity. If the Department is directed to purchase and rehabilitate reservoirs, our concerns would include the costs associated with the need to develop road access and other infrastructure improvements. Liability and access easements through neighboring private properties would also be necessary.

Reservoirs are a part of a larger water system that includes the water sources and the outflow. Existing reservoirs use a water source, which may include water tunnels, pipelines, or ditches, that

SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

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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

are typically maintained by a private agriculture business that use the water for irrigation purposes so the state doesn't pay for those costs. Also, the dam to manage the water in the reservoir and the maintenance of the dam and outflow are also necessary. These additional costs are not included in this bill and the Department would need authority to cover these expenses.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 06, 2016 11:29 PM
To: waltestimony
Cc: warrenmcfb@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1843 on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM*

HB1843

Submitted on: 2/6/2016

Testimony for WAL on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Warren Watanabe	Maui County Farm Bureau	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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HB1843

Submitted on: 2/5/2016

Testimony for WAL on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christine Davis	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Restore and recreate fish ponds

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HB1843

Submitted on: 2/6/2016

Testimony for WAL on Feb 8, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dylan Armstrong	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Deputy to the Chairperson

LATE

TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

February 8, 2016
9:00 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 325

HOUSE BILL NO 1843
RELATING TO FRESHWATER RESERVOIRS

Chairperson Yamane and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on House Bill No. 1843. The bill requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture (HDOA) as necessary, to identify, purchase, and rehabilitate suitable freshwater reservoirs in central Maui that are appropriate to: (1) Stock with freshwater game fish; and (2) Assist farmers who need access to fresh water while also serving as freshwater fishing areas. The Department of Agriculture supports the intent of this measure and defers to DLNR.

Access to fresh water is important to all livestock industries including aquaculture. The Department will support DLNR by assessing the impact access to fresh water may have on livestock industries including aquaculture. Reservoirs also represent a critical component of agriculture. Improvements to make these structures safe benefit the State's drive toward food sustainability.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure

