

HB 2040

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 Senate Committee on
WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE**

**Monday, March 14, 2016
2:45 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 2040
RELATING TO WATER SECURITY**

House Bill 2040 proposes to establish a two-year pilot program for a water security advisory group to enable public-private partnerships that increase water security by providing matching state funds for projects and programs to increase groundwater recharge, encourage water reuse, and improve the efficiency of potable and agricultural water use. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure provided that this appropriation does not adversely impact appropriations for other priorities in the Executive Supplemental Budget request or any existing funding to the Department's programs, and offers the following comments:**

While SECTION 4 of the bill provides the Department with the ability to contract with an independent non-profit entity to carry out the duties and activities associated with this measure, the Department is concerned existing staff resources are insufficient for the workload involved with procurement, management and monitoring of the agreement with the non-profit, services to carry out the projects and programs approved by the water security advisory group, and contracts for approved projects and programs. Additional staff resources would be needed for this project oversight. SECTION 6 of the bill provides for an unspecified amount of general revenues to support the two-year pilot program, which should include sufficient resources for staff oversight.

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

KEKOA KALUHIWA
FIRST DEPUTY

JEFFREY T. PEARSON, P.E.
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



Wai Maoli

HAWAI'I FRESH WATER INITIATIVE

827 Fort Street Mall | Honolulu, HI 96813 | (808) 537-6333

HawaiiCommunityFoundation.org

Fresh Water Council Members

William Aila

Stephen Anthony*

Michael Buck

Suzanne Case

Reginald Castanares

Meredith Ching

Derek Chow

Ka'eo Duarte

Sumner Erdman

Mark Fox

Thomas Giambelluca

Timothy Johns

Howard Killian

Patrick Kobayashi

Ernest Lau

Keith Okamoto

Jerry Ornellas

Monty Richards

Kapua Sproat

David Taylor

Dennis Teranishi

Barry Usagawa

*US Geological Survey
Liaison/Scientific Advisor to HCF

Testimony of the Hawai'i Fresh Water Council on

H.B. 2040

Relating to Water Security

Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Agriculture

Monday, March 14, 2016

2:45 P.M.

Conference Room 224

The Hawaii Fresh Water Council strongly supports H.B. 2040, which establishes a two-year pilot project to provide funds for projects and programs to increase water security in the State of Hawaii.

The Hawaii Fresh Water Initiative was launched in 2013 and assembled our diverse Fresh Water Council to develop a forward-thinking and consensus-based strategy to increase water security for Hawaii. Our Council jointly and unanimously recommend key strategies and policies with an ultimate goal of creating 100 million gallons per day in additional, reliable fresh water capacity by 2030. One of the key strategies to achieve this statewide water goal is to increase innovation in the water recharge, reuse, and conservation fields through a public-private pilot funding mechanism. H.B. 2040 will:

- Establish a water security advisory group made up of water managers, agricultural water system experts, private landowners that are active watershed partners, knowledgeable experts in Hawaiian cultural practices, and conservation specialists;
- Authorize the advisory group to establish criteria to evaluate and assign priorities for proposals by public or private agencies or organizations that are able to provide matching funds to increase water security; and
- Authorize the advisory group to recommend priorities to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for the grant of matching funds for water security programs.

In establishing the priorities for the pilot project, the advisory group is directed to encourage innovative proposals drawn from statewide that will:

- Establish new techniques and projects supporting the recharge of groundwater;
- Reduce the use of potable water for landscape irrigation and encourage the reuse of Hawai'i wastewater; and
- Improve the efficiency of potable domestic water or agricultural irrigation water use.

H.B. 2040 requires the selected projects to submit reports on the amount of water conserved, recharged, or reused, and requires the Department to submit an annual report on the pilot program to the Governor and to the Legislature. This pilot program will establish base-line information for the implementation of a longer-term program, and demonstrate a strong commitment to protecting Hawai'i's natural resources as the 2016 IUCN World Conservation Congress approaches.

For these reasons, we strongly support H.B. 2040 and urge its passage.

Hawai'i Green Growth is a public-private partnership that coordinates across government, non-governmental and cultural organizations, business, academia and philanthropy to achieve Hawai'i's Aloha+ Challenge 2030 sustainability goals.

Steering Committee

Deanna Spooner

June Matsumoto

Matt Lynch

Mark Fox

Mike Hamnett

Piia Aarma

Pono Shim

Scott Enright

Scott Seu

Ulalia Woodside

William J. Aila Jr.

Testimony of Hawai'i Green Growth In Support of HB2040 Relating to Water Security Senate Committee on Water, Land & Agriculture 14 March 2016, 2:45pm, Room 224

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihara, and Members of the Committee:

Hawai'i Green Growth (HGG) strongly supports HB2040 to establish a two-year pilot project in the Department of Land and Natural Resources that leverages state funds through public-private partnerships for projects that increase freshwater security.

The Aloha+ Natural Capital Investment Partnership is a joint public-private conservation commitment to drive action on the *Aloha+ Challenge* natural resources goals through joint financing. It calls for doubling Hawai'i's public investment in natural resource management by 2025, and will leverage this with a 1:1 match of private and philanthropic contributions. Public-private partnerships that bring together state, county and federal governments with private philanthropic and business entities are needed to provide essential reliable, long-term funding. Based on global climate disruption, increasingly severe weather and natural disasters, and projected long-term decline of rainfall, there is an urgency to invest in Hawai'i's freshwater supplies.

Starting with freshwater security, this initiative aims to increase Hawai'i's freshwater availability by 100 million gallons per day, and fund water projects that will enhance supply, conserve, and reuse water. This pilot will launch a public-private partnership that leverages state funding with private sector finance for overall natural resource management, including marine management, watershed protection and other key areas.

HGG public-private partners identified HB2040 as an important shared 2016 legislative priority to advance the *Aloha+ Challenge* natural resource and fresh water goals. The *Aloha+ Challenge* is a statewide commitment by the State Legislature (SCR 69), Governor, Mayors and Office of Hawaiian Affairs to achieve six sustainability goals for 2030 in the areas of clean energy, local food, natural resources, solid waste reduction, smart growth and climate resilience, and green jobs and education. Statewide HGG public-private partners are identifying shared measures to track progress and provide accountability with the online *Aloha+ Challenge* Dashboard, while developing an annual policy and action agenda to advance Hawai'i's shared 2030 sustainability goals.

The *Aloha+ Challenge* has been recognized nationally and internationally by the US State Department and Global Island Partnership as a model for locally appropriate implementation of UN Sustainable Development Goals. With the upcoming IUCN World Conservation Congress hosted by Hawai'i in September 2016, this legislative session is an important opportunity for Hawai'i to showcase leadership on sustainable development, conservation and resilience.

As a public-private partnership, Hawai'i Green Growth supports HB2040 to help drive implementation and investment on statewide natural resources goals.



HAWAII COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
Amplify the Power of Giving

Board of Governors

Deborah K. Berger
Chair

Paul Kosasa
Vice Chair

Michael Broderick
Secretary

Eric K. Yeaman
Treasurer

Alan H. Arizumi
Robert R. Bean
Mary G.E. Bitterman
Kaleialoha K. Cadinha-Pua'a
Roberta F. Chu
Kimberly W. Dey
Elizabeth Rice Grossman
Richard W. Gushman, II
Robert S. Harrison
Honey Bun Haynes
Peter Ho
Tyrie Lee Jenkins, MD
Elliot K. Mills
Judy B. Pietsch
Katherine G. Richardson
Jennifer Sabas

O'ahu

827 Fort Street Mall
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813
Telephone 808-537-6333
Facsimile 808-521-6286
Toll-free 1-888-731-3863

Hawai'i Island

65-1279 Kawaihae Road
Parker Square, Room 203
Kamuela, Hawai'i 96743
Telephone 808-885-2174
117 Keawe Street, Suite 108
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720
Telephone 808-935-1206

Kaua'i

4139 Hardy Street, Suite C
Lihue, Hawai'i 96766
Telephone 808-245-4585

Maui County

33 Lono Avenue
Kahului Building, Suite 390
Kahului, Hawai'i 96732
Telephone 808-242-6184

HawaiiCommunityFoundation.org

**Testimony of the
Hawai'i Community Foundation
on
H.B. 2040
Relating to Water Security
Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Agriculture
Monday, March 14, 2016
2:45 P.M.
Conference Room 224**

The Hawaii Community Foundation strongly supports H.B. 2040, which establishes a two-year pilot project to provide funds for projects and programs to increase water security in the State of Hawaii.

The Hawaii Community Foundation (HCF) became concerned about long-term fresh water security issues in 2012, as research emerged from the University of Hawaii linking climate change and negative trends in Hawaii's fresh water supply. HCF assembled a blue ribbon panel of water stakeholders to provide collaborative solutions, and in concert with their recommendations launched the Hawaii Fresh Water Initiative in 2013. The Fresh Water Initiative has a goal of creating 100 million gallons per day in additional, reliable fresh water capacity by 2030.

HCF supports the findings of the Fresh Water Council and strongly supports the policy recommendations found in their "Blueprint for Action." One of the key recommendations from the Council is the establishment of a public-private pilot funding mechanism to support water security in Hawaii. H.B. 2040 will establish this important program.

HCF strongly supports H.B. 2040 and urges passage, and we stand ready to assist in helping implement this important program and all elements of the Council's "Blueprint for Action."



P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759
Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921
e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

March 14, 2016

HEARING BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND AND AGRICULTURE

TESTIMONY ON HB 2040
RELATING TO WATER SECURITY

Room 224
2:45 PM

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihara, and Members of the Committee:

I am Randy Cabral, President of the Hawaii Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,900 farm family members statewide, and serves as Hawaii's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic and educational interest of our diverse agricultural community.

The Hawaii Farm Bureau strongly supports HB 2040, establishing a two-year pilot program in the Department of Land and Natural Resources that enables public-private partnerships to provide funds for projects that increase water security.

Advancements in the State's water infrastructure have far lagged population increases. At the same time, the time to prepare for a drought is when it is raining. Hawaii has had increased rainfall during the past few years and a sense of complacency to drought has developed. Yet forecasters predict prolonged droughts in the near future.

Recent reports on Maui, the island most dependent on surface water is dire:

The U.S. Geological Survey's gauge on Puu Kukui in the West Maui Mountains, **one of the wettest places in the world, logged its lowest January since 1977** and its lowest total for any month since May 1989, according to the weather service. **Only 1.08 inches - or 3 percent of normal rainfall - fell in January. The average rainfall for the month is 31 inches.**

Ulupalakua in Upcountry also was dry with **only 0.2 inch of rain; 4.71 inches** fall on average.

Maui News: February 5, 2016

This program creatively seeks to incentivize efforts to increase water supplies by increasing efficiency, encouraging recharge and encouraging reuse.

We request your **support of HB 2040**, urgently needed to increase Hawaii's tolerance and resiliency to drought event. Thank you.