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February 1, 2016

Testimony Before The  
Senate Committee on Water and Land  
**IN SUPPORT OF SB 2139**  
Monday February 1, 2016, 2:45pm, Room 224

My name is Pamela Lota Fujii. I am a member of the Ewa Limu Project and this is my testimony in strong support of **SB 2139**.

The Ewa Limu Project is part of a network of communities collectively referred to E Alu Pū (moving forward together) that is supported by Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo (or KUA). KUA works to empower communities to improve their quality of life through caring for their environmental heritage together to better Hawai'i and achieve 'āina momona— an abundant, productive ecological system that supports community well-being.

This bill would support community-based marine management by providing funding in DLNR for:

- A grant program for communities working on community-based marine management;
- 3 positions in the Div. of Aquatic Resources (DAR): CBSFA coordinator, legal fellow, aquatic invasive species specialist;
- 2 positions in the Div. of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE): Makai watch coordinator and legal fellow; and
- 12 positions in DOCARE for Community Fisheries Enforcement Units (CFEUs) statewide.

Passing this bill would provide critical staffing and programs in the DLNR to support the growing community-based co-management movement to better manage our precious marine resources, and could support increased volunteer community-based efforts.

Mahalo for this opportunity to submit written support for **SB 2139**.

  
Pamela Lota Fujii

Testimony submitted by Paulette Wright Smith,  
Developer, 4<sup>th</sup> grade Monk Seal Educational Classroom  
Talk in association with The Marine Wildlife Program's  
Barbless Hook Classroom Presentation

I urge you to support SB2139. Having been in 30 4<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms on the Big Island these past two years, speaking to our next generation about the critical need to take care of our ocean's resources, to help the monk seal survive, to reduce marine debris, this bill could do so much good for organizations, such as the West Hawaii Fishery Council, the Marine Wildlife Program, so many more. Please, for those of us who are volunteers especially, who strive relentlessly to change the degradation that is occurring so visibly, or loss of species, please support us and support this bill.

Respectfully submitted,

Paulette Wright Smith  
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Hilo, HI 96720  
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808 936 9019

And thank you for your service.

Christopher Peters

77-6508 Maile Street • Kailua Kona, HI 96740  
(850) 559-8107 • christopher.peters@tnc.org

January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016

Dear Legislators,

as a citizen of Hawaii deeply concerned with the health and conservation of our marine resources, I would like to submit my support for the passage of SB2139.

In the past 7 months, I have spent considerable time interacting with stakeholders through out West Hawaii. From tourists and tour operators, to DAR, DOCARE officers and fisherman, the vast majority have the a legitimate interest and desire to malama our coastal resources. However, this common goal has not yet united our citizens. It is for this reason that I support this bill and a renewed focus on community based management. I believe these diverse stakeholders can become the driving force for successful management of Hawaii's most valuable resources if sufficient education, outreach and coordination occurs.

Please support the passage of SB2139.

Sincerely,

Christopher Peters

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Kailua Kona, HI 96740  
christopher.peters@tnc.org

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**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2139 on Feb 1, 2016 14:45PM  
**Date:** Sunday, January 31, 2016 7:52:06 PM

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**SB2139**

Submitted on: 1/31/2016

Testimony for WLA on Feb 1, 2016 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cory Harden	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Senators, Please support this bill. It would breathe life into community-based management efforts such as the West Hawaii Fishery Council. Mahalo!

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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**SB2139**

Submitted on: 2/1/2016

Testimony for WLA on Feb 1, 2016 14:45PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Paul Strauss	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Yes, to more collaboration between government agencies that manage our natural resources and the communities where these resources are located.

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