

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
CARTY S. CHANG
Interim Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on
OCEAN, MARINE RESOURCES, & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Wednesday, March 18, 2015
10:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 435, SENATE DRAFT 2
RELATING TO HAWAIIAN PLANTS**

Senate Bill 435, Senate Draft 2 proposes to, subject to exceptions, require all plans, designs, and specifications for new or renovated landscaping of State-developed buildings, complexes, facilities, or housing to incorporate Hawaiian plants. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) appreciates the intent of this measure and provides the following comments.**

The Department agrees the use of Hawaiian plants in public landscaping projects will contribute to a Hawaiian sense of place, reduce the use of non-native invasive plant species, and support the preservation of Hawaii's cultural and ecological heritage.

This bill defines "Hawaiian plants" as: *"any plant species, including land, freshwater, and marine plant species, growing or living in Hawaii without having been brought to Hawaii by humans; or any plant species, including land, freshwater, and marine plant species, brought to Hawaii by Polynesians before European contact, such as kukui, kalo, wauke, niu, noni, and kamani."*

The Department notes native* Hawaiian plants and Polynesian introductions are two separate categories of species each with their own unique significance, importance, and considerations. Lumping the two categories via this definition could lead to confusion.

*From a scientific point of view, a species is considered to be native to a region if it arrived in that place by natural processes without the aid of humans. Native species can be either endemic (found only within a particular region) or indigenous (found both within the region and elsewhere).

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.

CARTY S. CHANG
INTERIM CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

DANIEL S. QUINN
INTERIM FIRST DEPUTY

W. ROY HARDY
ACTING 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

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



SARAH ALLEN
ADMINISTRATOR

PAULA A. YOUNGLING
ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR

**STATE OF HAWAII
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE**

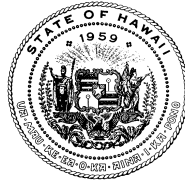
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TESTIMONY
OF
SARAH ALLEN, ADMINISTRATOR
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE
TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE
ON
OCEAN, MARINE RESOURCES, & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
March 18, 2015, 10:00AM

SENATE BILL 435, SD2
RELATING TO HAWAIIAN PLANTS

Chair Ing, Vice-Chair Lowen, and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on SB 435, SD 2. The State Procurement Office (SPO) met with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and came to agreement on the substance of the language of SB 435 SD 2. The SPO supports SB 435 SD 2 relating to Hawaiian plants.

Thank you.



STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY CONTROL
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**Testimony of Jessica Wooley
in SUPPORT of SB 435, SD2
RELATING TO HAWAIIAN PLANTS**

REPRESENTATIVE KANIELA ING, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON OCEAN, MARINE RESOURCES, & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
Hearing Date: March 18, 2015, 10:00 a.m. Room Number: 325

1 **Office Testimony:** The Office of Environmental Quality Control supports SB425, SD2. It is
2 standard practice at the OEQC to advise project proponents to use Hawaiian plants in
3 landscaping. We therefore strongly support SB435, SD2, and urge your respective committee to
4 pass this bill.

5 Thank you.



SB435 SD2
RELATING TO HAWAIIAN PLANTS

House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, & Hawaiian Affairs

March 18, 2015

10:00 a.m.

Room 325

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **STRONGLY SUPPORTS** SB435 SD2, which is a bill in OHA's 2015 Legislative Package. SB435 SD2 amends the Public Procurement Code to require a gradually increasing minimum percentage of Hawaiian plants in new and renovated publicly-funded landscaping projects. **By passing this bill, the state would continue to place itself at the forefront of promoting the use of Hawaiian plants, an important step towards preserving our cultural and threatened ecological heritage.**

SB435 SD2 provides clear yet flexible guidelines for state and county agencies in procuring landscaping projects that incorporate Hawaiian plants. Currently, the Procurement Code requires indigenous and Polynesian-introduced plants to be used "wherever and whenever feasible"; however, this has not substantially increased the use of Hawaiian plants in urban and suburban environments. By replacing the ambiguous phrase "wherever and whenever feasible" with a specific percentage of the total plant footprint that must use Hawaiian plants, and providing a mechanism for exemptions when the use of Hawaiian plants is not feasible, SB435 SD2 will make compliance with the spirit of the existing procurement law substantially easier for procuring agencies and their applicants.

In setting the minimum required percentages for the total footprint, SB435 SD2 sets up a phased in approach—10 percent by 2019, 25 percent by 2025, and 35 percent by 2030. This timetable was developed in close consultation with stakeholders and experts, and provides nurseries, landscaping professionals, and other plant suppliers with sufficient time to increase their stocks of Hawaiian plants. Financial implications are minimal as the law already requires incorporation of native and Polynesian-introduced plants, and **SB435 SD2's phased in approach further minimizes fiscal burdens: while many Hawaiian and non-Hawaiian plants are already comparable in cost, the cost of Hawaiian plants should continue to decrease as the local plant market develops to meet demand.**

Hawaiian culture is intimately tied to the land and its resources. Historically, each island, moku, and ahupua'a supported varied and diverse plant life. Such plants were and continue to be essential to perpetuating place-based Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, as well as Native Hawaiian traditional knowledge. The connection between Hawaiian culture and Hawai'i's plant life is also evident in other forms: from place names based on regional flora (e.g., 'Aiea, Hau'ula, Kapālama), to mo'olelo (e.g., 'Ōhi'a and Lehua), chants (e.g., the Kumulipo), and hula relating to and inspired by Hawaiian plants. Accordingly, the increased presence of Hawaiian plants in state landscaping will ensure that our cultural heritage is reflected in our public spaces, educating both residents and visitors as to the value and significance of our islands' flora.

In addition, the increased use of Hawaiian plants in public landscaping will help to reverse the rapid decline of these ecologically important species, as well as other native life that may depend upon them. The displacement and decline of Hawaiian plants, which have been integrated in our islands' ecological landscape for hundreds if not thousands of years, have contributed significantly to Hawai'i's reputation as the "endangered species capitol of the world." OHA recognizes that the extinction of a plant species can result in the extinction of associated traditional and customary practices, as well as associated indigenous knowledge that has been passed down for generations. Increasing the use of Hawaiian plants in public landscaping projects can help to reverse this trend, not just directly, but also through the development of Hawaiian plant nurseries and greater knowledge of Hawaiian plants' ecological importance.

OHA notes that SB435 SD2 reflects amendments formulated as a result of collaboration between OHA and the State Procurement Office. SB435 SD2 retains the required minimum plant footprint percentages in SB435, but provides for any exemptions to be addressed through administrative action rather than specified in the bill itself. In furtherance of this purpose, OHA offers the following amendment to provide greater clarity and guidance to the policy board, as well as flexibility and efficiency to the exemption process, by authorizing the policy board to establish procedures, standards, or guidelines without going through chapter 91 rule-making. Specifically, OHA recommends amending the language found on page 4, lines 13-19 of SB435 SD2 to read as follows:

(d) Notwithstanding chapter 91, for the purposes of satisfying the percentage footprint requirements under subsection (c), the purchasing agency may exclude from total plant footprint calculations those areas where available Hawaiian plant species are not appropriate for the particular landscaping needs or environmental conditions of such areas. The exclusion of such areas shall be determined using procedures, standards, or guidelines established by the policy board at the time of issuance of the invitation for bids, request for proposals, or other solicitation under this chapter. Such procedures, standards, or guidelines may be established by board action notwithstanding chapter 91.

Therefore, OHA urges the Committee to **PASS WITH AMENDMENTS** SB435 SD2. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify.



The Judiciary, State of Hawaii

**Testimony to the House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources
and Hawaiian Affairs**

Representative Kaniela Ing, Chair
Representative Nicole Lowen, Vice Chair

Wednesday, March 18, 2015, 10:00 AM.
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

by
Rodney A. Maile
Administrative Director of the Courts

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Bill No. and Title: Senate Bill No. 435, S.D. 2, Relating to Hawaiian Plants.

Purpose: Subject to exceptions, requires all plans, designs, and specifications for new or renovated landscaping of State-developed buildings, complexes, facilities, or housing to incorporate Hawaiian plants. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD2)

Judiciary's Position:

The Judiciary is in general support of this bill's proposed revisions to HRS § 103D-408, the spirit of which the Judiciary has incorporated in the planning and design of its newer facilities, including that which is in progress for the new Kona Judiciary Complex in West Hawai'i, as well as the recently completed landscaping renovations at Ali'iōlani Hale in downtown Honolulu's Capitol District.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 435, S.D.2.

COUNTY COUNCIL

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Arryl Kaneshiro
KipuKai Kuali'i
JoAnn A. Yukimura



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Council Services Division
4396 Rice Street, Suite 209
Līhu'e, Kaua'i, Hawai'i 96766

March 17, 2015

**TESTIMONY OF KIPUKAI KUALI'I
COUNCILMEMBER, KAUAI COUNTY COUNCIL
ON**

SB 435, SD 2, RELATING TO HAWAIIAN PLANTS
House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, & Hawaiian Affairs
Wednesday, March 18, 2015
10:00 a.m.
Conference Room 325

Dear Chair Ing and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of SB 435, SD 2, relating to Hawaiian Plants. My testimony is submitted in my capacity as the Economic Development & Intergovernmental Relations Committee Chair and as an individual Councilmember of the Kaua'i County Council.

SB 435, SD 2 requires that all plans, designs, and specifications for new or renovated landscaping of State-developed buildings, complexes, facilities, or housing to incorporate Hawaiian plants. As the Economic Development & Intergovernmental Relations Committee Chair and as a Native Hawaiian, this requirement will not only support the preservation of Hawai'i's cultural and ecological heritage and increase the use of native plant species, but it will also create more demand for Hawaiian plants, which will benefit our local Hawaiian plant growers.

For the reasons stated above, I strongly encourage the House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, & Hawaiian Affairs to support this measure. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Council Services Staff at (808) 241-4188.

Sincerely,

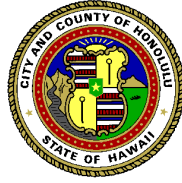
KIPUKAI KUALI'I
Councilmember, Kaua'i County Council

AB:cy

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

1000 ULUOHIA STREET, SUITE 309 • KAPOLEI, HAWAII 96707
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KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR



MICHELE K. NEKOTA
DIRECTOR

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE TWENTY-EGHT LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION 2015

COMMITTEE ON OCEAN, MARINE RESOURCES, & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Representative Kaniela Ing, Chair
Representative Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee

S.B.435, S.D. 2: RELATING TO HAWAIIAN PLANTS

Wednesday, March 18, 2015, at 10:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

In Opposition of S.B. 435, S.D. 2, RELATING TO HAWAIIAN PLANTS

Dear Chair Kaniela Ing, Vice Chair Nicole E. Lowen, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Parks and Recreation opposes S.B.435, S.D. 2, "Relating to Hawaiian Plants", subject to exceptions, requires all plans, designs, and specifications for new or renovated landscaping of State-developed buildings, complexes, facilities, or housing to incorporate Hawaiian plants. Effective 7/1/2050, (SD2).

The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) understands the intent of the bill but has several concerns. The current native plant nursery industry cannot supply enough plant material to meet the requirement of this bill. We already have difficulty obtaining large enough quantities of native plants to support some of our larger native plantings.

Another concern is that additional funding will be required for implementation, installation and maintenance. The management of native plantings requires a lot of resources and specialized expertise to properly maintaining them. Many Hawaiian plants have micro-climate requirements that drive and determine their success. It is important to have the right plant in the right place which a landscape expert will be best to determine the location. Additionally, we found during maintenance of our native landscaping at the Queen Kapiolani Garden and at the Honolulu Botanical Gardens that many native species are highly susceptible to pests. Our request is that research and funding be considered to mitigate these pest problems.

Although there is an exemption to this measure for lawn areas, we request that there be an exemption for preservation of existing significant or historical landscaping. For example, ironwood trees are not native, but are a significant part of the history of Kapiolani Park. This should include recognition of the State Law and corresponding City ordinance regarding designation of Exceptional Trees. Under these long-standing laws, we replant with a like tree if a tree fails in a designated grove of trees such as the ironwood trees along Carriage Road and Kalakaua Avenue in Kapiolani Park or the mahogany trees on Kalakaua Avenue from South Beretania Street to Waikiki. Another request for an exemption is for botanical gardens since it is deliberate that they have many non-native plants in the gardens because of the various needs such as geographic themes in sections of the gardens.

The last concern for us is that urban environments have changed dramatically due to their surrounding developments. For example, many Hawaiian plants have micro-climate requirements that drive and determine their success. These micro-climates include the amount of sunlight, rainfall, drainage, wind, and temperature. Urban environments may not be conducive to traditional native plants so an exemption application process should be considered for areas where failure occurs due to existing conditions which cannot be mitigated be exempt from this measure.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit comments on S.B.435, S.D. 2.

Sincerely,
Michele K. Nekota
Director, Department of Parks and Recreation



The House of Representatives
Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources & Hawaiian Affairs
March 18, 2015
10:00 a.m., Conference Room 325
State Capitol

Testimony in Support of SB 435 SD2

Aloha Chair Ing, Vice Chair Lowen, and Members of the Committee,

The Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species (CGAPS) **supports SB 435 SD2**, which with exceptions, would require all new state-funded or renovated non-highway landscapes (and other exceptions) to incorporate at least 10% native or Polynesian introduced plants starting in five years; and increasing to 25% in 2025 and to 35% in 2030.

In the five years before implementation, we could work together to ensure that the lessons learned by leaders in Hawaiian plants and landscaping are shared with those that are less familiar with the growth and maintenance requirements of Hawaiian plants. We have worked closely with the Landscape Industry Council of Hawai'i (LICH) on a variety of issues and projects, and we should continue to rely on these industry experts to help identify research, practical application, maintenance needs, and other knowledge gaps that will be needed as we approach 2030.

Industry experts have also suggested the following, which will be reiterated during the rulemaking process if this bill succeeds:

1. A process for exemption should exist for projects that are not hospitable for the minimum percentage of Hawaiian plants. This process must balance conservation and industry.
2. While the use of the Hawai'i-Pacific Weed Risk Assessment (HPWRA) can be more than 90% accurate at predicting whether or not a plant will be invasive in Hawai'i, it should not be used as the only criteria for planting decisions. Again, we should balance conservation with industry, and use the HPWRA along with horticultural and environmental factors when deciding on non-native landscaping plants.

Also, research and development of native plants for public landscapes, and the maintenance needs of such landscapes is poorly-funded. Much of the work is done by private businesses in private landscapes that have a vested interest in maintaining their landscapes. The only other work is being conducted by UH CTAHR for roadsides, and conservation groups for restoration work. If this bill passes, it would also be important to use the next five years to prepare for implementation. Funds for R&D would help ensure success.

Your support of SB 435 SD2 will help us send the following clear messages: that the use and care of Hawaiian plants in public places are priorities, and that we must continue to work together to prevent the use and spread of invasive horticultural plants. Mahalo for your consideration.

Aloha,
Christy Martin
CGAPS

ing2-Mary

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 7:31 AM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: thiswann@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB435 on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM*

SB435

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for OMH on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Presley Wann	Hui Maka'ainana O Makana	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 8:22 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: darakawa@lurf.org
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB435 on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM

SB435

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for OMH on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Z. Arakawa	Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii	Support	No

Comments: The Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii SUPPORTS SB 435, SD2, RELATING TO HAWAIIAN PLANTS, which subject to exceptions, requires all plans, designs, and specifications for new or renovated landscaping of State-developed buildings, complexes, facilities, or housing to incorporate Hawaiian plants. Effective 7/1/2050. Recently, LURF has been involved in a mediation regarding designation of critical habitat and the preservation and propagation of native endangered and threatened species with U.S. Fish and Wildlife, the Department of Land and Natural Resources, the Department of Hawaiian Homelands, state and county land owners and private land owners. The mediation confirmed that there are many uncertainties and failures relating to the successful propagation and maintenance of Hawaiian plants. SB 435, SD2 represents a golden opportunity to gather data and information that would help the state and the public successfully propagate and maintain Hawaiian plants. Thus, LURF respectfully recommends TWO AMENDMENTS to this measure: (1) PILOT PROJECT. First, due to prior failures to successfully propagate Hawaiian plants, make this a "Pilot Project" for maybe three facilities on each island (shoreline, inland and mountains). A Pilot Project may also resolve certain procurement issues; and (2) BEST PRACTICES REPORT. Second, require OHA, or another State entity, to prepare ongoing "Best Practices" reports on the success or failure of the planting of Hawaiian plants on state properties. The purpose of these "Best Practices" reports would be to provide information and guidance relating to the best propagation and maintenance practices for Hawaiian plants (shoreline, inland, mountains), which could be used by other public agencies, as well as private land owners. (SB 435, SD2)

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Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs

P. O. Box 1135
Honolulu, Hawai`i 96807

SB435SD2 RELATING TO HAWAIIAN PLANTS

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON OCEAN MARINE RESOURCES AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Wednesday, 3/18/15; 10:00 am; Room 325

Aloha Chairman Ing, Vice Chair Lowen and members of the House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources and Hawaiian Affairs. I am Annelle Amaral, President of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs (AHCC), an organization of sixty-seven component clubs in Hawaii and on the Continent here to testify in support of SB435SD2 Relating to Hawaiian Plants.

In January, the AHCC Board of Directors held a quarterly meeting and staff members of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs(OHA) came to ask our kokua in supporting their legislative package and explained the purpose and reason for each measure. The Directors agreed to support the package as it was presented to us.

Clearly, invasive species, introduced purposefully or by neglect, has taken a huge toll on the indigenous and endemic plants of Hawaii. Landscaping usage may not always be feasible due to variations of climate and soil conditions, but protection and preservation of native species through widespread landscape usage is essential to preserve species that might otherwise become extinct..

We would hope that bill HB206 and other bills before you today will raise the level of awareness and the need to preserve not only native plants but the native culture of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Contact: Jalna.keala2@Hawaiiintel.net



**Testimony of Hawai'i Green Growth in Support of SB435 SD2
Relating to Hawaiian Plants**

House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resource, & Hawaiian Affairs
18 March 2015, 10:00am, Room 325

Audrey Newman
Hawai'i Green Growth
P.O. Box 535 Ho'olehua, Hawai'i 96729

Hawai'i Green Growth is a voluntary partnership of more than 60 state, county, federal, business, and non-governmental leaders from energy, food production, natural resources, waste reduction, planning, green jobs, and other sectors who have come together to support a shared statewide commitment and tangible actions toward sustainability and a model green economy.

Aloha Chair Ing, Vice Chair Lowen, and Members of the Committee,

Hawai'i Green Growth (HGG) supports the Office of Hawaiian Affairs priority SB435 SD2 to increase Hawaiian plants in public landscaping. **SB435 SD2** will help advance action on the *Aloha+ Challenge: A Culture of Sustainability – He Nohona 'Ae'ōia*, a joint leadership commitment to sustainability for the State of Hawai'i signed by the Governor, Mayors, and Office of Hawaiian Affairs in July 2014. Native plant restoration is a key piece of the *Aloha+ Challenge's* 2030 target to "Reverse the trend of natural resource loss mauka to makai by increasing freshwater security, watershed protection, community-based marine management, invasive species control, and restoration of native species."

HGG supports amending the state procurement code to require that a clear and progressively-increasing percentage of all future publicly-funded landscaping projects utilize native and Polynesian-introduced plants to promote a Hawaiian sense of place, cultural preservation, biodiversity, biosecurity and ecosystem management.

Mahalo,

Audrey Newman

Senior Advisor, Hawai'i Green Growth (HGG)

Bringing leaders together to achieve sustainability in Hawai'i & be a model for a green economy

<http://www.hawaiigreengrowth.org/>



KO'OLAUPOKO HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUB

March 16, 2015

TO: Rep. Kaniela Ing, Chair / & Members
Ocean Resources & Hawaiian Affairs Committee

FROM: Alice P. Hewett, President
Ko'olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club

RE: S.B. 435, S.D. 2 – Relating to Hawaiian Plants – Support

Aloha Chair Ing and members of this Committee:

On behalf of the Ko'olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club, I wish to offer our strong support for the passage of Senate Bill 435, Senate Draft 2, which would the use of Native Hawaiian plants in landscaping of state-developed buildings, complexes, facilities or housing.

As some of you may know, this isn't a new idea; and about 15 or 20 years ago, there was a push to have Native plants landscaping for public buildings. The concept lost steam, unfortunately, because there were not enough Native plants available to use in landscaping. On top of that, few landscaping companies – not to mention state and county grounds maintenance crews – were knowledgeable about how to keep native plants thriving until they could survive on their own without constant maintenance.

Since that time, however, there are many more people growing Hawaiian plants. Private landscaping companies know that Natives are popular for commercial and private landscaping, and there is a great deal of competition for precious island la`au. With some training, public maintenance crews can also nurture these plants for a couple of years until they are self-sustaining.

That is the beauty of growing Natives in your public landscapes. Once they take root, they usually can thrive on their own, just as they did centuries ago before island landscapes were changed by the bulldozer and the plow. Growing appropriate Native Hawaiian plants in areas where they are known to thrive on their own makes good sense. An added bonus is that they are integral to water-saving landscapes as well, using xeriscaping, which clusters dry-land plants in the sunny areas, and shade-loving plants where they have some shelter.

Many of our Native Hawaiian plants grow nowhere else in the world. How incredible would it be to have them thriving and growing again all around us, where they belong.

We urge your committee to pass Senate Bill 435, S.D. 2, out of committee. Mahalo nui loa.

The Ko'olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club was established in 1937 and is a not-for-profit community organization dedicated to preserving and perpetuating the history, heritage and culture of Native Hawaiians. Its membership is open to people of Hawaiian ancestry and those who are "Hawaiian at heart".

ing2-Mary

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 1:40 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: ikepono@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB435 on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM

SB435

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for OMH on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Isaiah Kala Kaaihue	King Kamehameha HCC	Support	No

Comments: I strongly SUPPORT SB435 which will require the use of Hawaiian plants in public landscaping projects. I believe that Hawaiian plants are important both culturally and ecologically, and the use of Hawaiian plants fosters a uniquely Hawaiian sense of place. Hawaiian plants are important because they are the foundation of Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, and are celebrated in Native Hawaiian place names, mo'olelo, and cultural art forms such as hula. At the same time, normalizing the use of Hawaiian plants will provide essential habitat for native animals, insects, and birds, which are found only in Hawai'i. I urge the committee to PASS this bill.

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ing2-Mary

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 1:42 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: ikepono@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB435 on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM*

SB435

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for OMH on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Isaiah Kala Kaaihue	Ewa Puuloa Hawaiian Civic Club	Support	No

Comments:

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Testimony of The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i
Supporting S.B. 435 SD2 Relating to Hawaiian Plants
House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources and Hawaiian Affairs
Wednesday, March 18, 2015, 10:00AM, Room 325

For more than 35 years, The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i has been working closely with government agencies, local businesses, private landowners, non-profit partners, and interested communities across the state to preserve the lands and waters upon which all life in these islands depends. The Conservancy is a private non-profit conservation organization that has helped to protect nearly 200,000 acres of natural lands in Hawai'i. Today, we actively manage more than 35,000 acres in 11 nature preserves on Maui, Hawai'i, Moloka'i, Lāna'i, and Kaua'i, and support 19 coastal communities seeking to co-manage marine resources in partnership with the State of Hawai'i.

The Nature Conservancy supports S.B. 435 SD2 to amend the state procurement code to mandate increased use of Hawaiian plants in publicly-funded landscaping.

Most people around the world have a vision of Hawai'i that includes sand, surf, coconut palms, and plumeria. All of us would agree that few places are more renowned for their natural environment than Hawai'i. However, even for many who were raised here, there is a Hawai'i they might not recognize. Hawai'i's natural landscape includes an amazing and beautiful set of ecological systems; with over 10,000 native plants and animals, more than 90% of which are found nowhere else on Earth. Over thousands of years, wind and ocean currents carried seeds, insects, birds and fishes to these islands. Once here, plants and animals adapted into beautiful and unique life forms and ecosystems. These along with early Polynesian introductions created a unique and balanced blend of plants and animals. Hawaiian culture identifies an intrinsic relationship of people to land as ancestor.

Unfortunately, we have lost more than half of our native ecosystems over time, primarily due to land conversion for a variety of human uses. Today, our native forests have retreated to the uplands. A major threat to what remains is invasive species—plants, animals and diseases that harm our environment, economy and quality of life.

This bill can play an important role on many levels, including:

- Enhancing the market for locally grown products;
- Reducing the risk of imported pests and diseases;
- Educating residents and visitors about Hawai'i's globally unique ecology and culture; and
- Promoting the sense of place and quality of life we desire and expect in our home.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer our support for this bill.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 6:49 AM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: pohaimm@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB435 on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM*

SB435

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for OMH on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
C.R.P. Montague-Mullins	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: omhtestimony
Cc: robertl@oha.org
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB435 on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM*

SB435

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for OMH on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert K. Lindsey, Jr.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: omhtestimony
Cc: kealohafox@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB435 on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM

SB435

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for OMH on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leanne Fox	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly SUPPORT SB435 which will require the use of Hawaiian plants in public landscaping projects. There are many economic benefits to landscaping with Hawaiian plants. Hawaiian plants have adapted to the local environment over hundreds or thousands of years, and can require less water, which decreases maintenance costs. Raising awareness about the value of Hawaiian plants and normalizing the use of these plants may reduce the introduction of alien invasive species, thereby protecting our native forests, native ecosystems as well as agricultural and tourism economies. I urge the committee to PASS this bill.

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To: omhtestimony
Cc: ndavlantes@aol.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB435 on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM*

SB435

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for OMH on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nancy Davlantes	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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ing2-Mary

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 1:11 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: lucas.morgan@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB435 on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM

SB435

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for OMH on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lucas Morgan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly SUPPORT SB435 which will require the use of Hawaiian plants in public landscaping projects. I believe that Hawaiian plants are important both culturally and ecologically, and the use of Hawaiian plants fosters a uniquely Hawaiian sense of place. Hawaiian plants are important because they are the foundation of Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, and are celebrated in Native Hawaiian place names, mo'olelo, and cultural art forms such as hula. At the same time, normalizing the use of Hawaiian plants will provide essential habitat for native animals, insects, and birds, which are found only in Hawai'i. Also, there are many economic benefits to landscaping with Hawaiian plants. Hawaiian plants have adapted to the local environment over hundreds or thousands of years, and can require less water, which decreases maintenance costs. Raising awareness about the value of Hawaiian plants and normalizing the use of these plants may reduce the introduction of alien invasive species, thereby protecting our native forests, native ecosystems as well as agricultural and tourism economies. I urge the committee to PASS this bill. Mahalo for your support! Lucas Morgan

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ing2-Mary

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To: omhtestimony
Cc: kamakane73@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB435 on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM*

SB435

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for OMH on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kama Hopkins	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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To: omhtestimony
Cc: 1bagpoe@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB435 on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM

SB435

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for OMH on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
LORNA POE	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I strongly SUPPORT SB435 which will require the use of Hawaiian plants in public landscaping projects. There are many economic benefits to landscaping with Hawaiian plants. Hawaiian plants have adapted to the local environment over hundreds or thousands of years, and can require less water, which decreases maintenance costs. Raising awareness about the value of Hawaiian plants and normalizing the use of these plants may reduce the introduction of alien invasive species, thereby protecting our native forests, native ecosystems as well as agricultural and tourism economies. I urge the committee to PASS this bill. Mahalo for your support!

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I strongly **SUPPORT SB435** which will require the use of Hawaiian plants in public landscaping projects. I believe that Hawaiian plants are important both culturally and ecologically, and the use of Hawaiian plants fosters a uniquely Hawaiian sense of place. Hawaiian plants are important because they are the foundation of Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, and are celebrated in Native Hawaiian place names, mo'olelo, and cultural art forms such as hula. At the same time, normalizing the use of Hawaiian plants will provide essential habitat for native animals, insects, and birds, which are found only in Hawai'i. I urge the committee to **PASS** this bill.

Holly K. Coleman

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 1:40 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: brytni@hawaii.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB435 on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM

SB435

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for OMH on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brytni K-aloha	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly SUPPORT SB435 which which phases in the increased use of Hawaiian plants in new and renovated publicly-funded landscaping projects. There are many economic benefits to landscaping with Hawaiian plants. Hawaiian plants have adapted to the local environment over hundreds or thousands of years, and can require less water, which decreases maintenance costs. Raising awareness about the value of Hawaiian plants and normalizing the use of these plants may reduce the introduction of alien invasive species, thereby protecting our native forests, native ecosystems as well as agricultural and tourism economies. I urge the committee to PASS this bill.

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IN REPLY REFER TO:

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

March 18, 2015
10:00 A.M.
State Capitol, Room 325

LATE

**S.B. 435, S.D. 2
RELATING TO HAWAIIAN PLANTS**

House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, and Hawaiian Affairs

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** the intent of this bill, which proposes to require that Hawaiian plants be used in the landscaping for new or renovated buildings, complexes facilities, or housing.

However, the DOT has the following concerns regarding the language of the bill. The terms "plant footprint" are used throughout the bill but are not clearly defined. Clearly defining "plant footprint" is important so that there is no misinterpretation.

DOT is also concerned with the inclusion of the landscape percentages as it fails to take into account the variety of considerations that goes into plant selection. DOT currently incorporates Hawaiian plants to the extent feasible and practicable. In addition to plant type, DOT also considers Hawaiian plant availability, suitability of the environment, and maintenance requirements for plant selection. For example, if plants are not widely available, it may increase cost and may delay completion of projects. Also, DOT facilities traverse a multitude of environments that is challenging to many plant species.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



**Department of Land and Natural Resources
Aha Moku Advisory Committee
State of Hawaii
Post Office Box 621
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809**

Testimony of
Leimana DaMate, AMAC Executive Director

Before the House Committee on
Ocean, Marine Resources & Hawaiian Affairs

Wednesday, March 18, 2015
10:00 A.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

In SUPPORT of Senate Bill 435 SD 2

Relating to Hawaiian Plants

SB 435 SD 2 requires all plans, designs, and specifications for new or renovated landscaping of State-developed buildings, complexes, facilities, or housing to incorporate Hawaiian plants. **The Aha Moku Advisory Committee (AMAC) strongly supports this bill.**

The Aha Moku System encompasses the eight main Hawaiian Islands and upholds the traditional and generational knowledge of the people who are connected to each of the 43 moku and 587 ahupua'a within the State of Hawaii. This knowledge directly ties into the cultural and ecological well-being of the specific environment of the ahupua'a, moku, and mukupuni. Specific types of plants thrive in specific ecosystems and frankly impact the well-being of the native Hawaiians who are generational practitioners of those areas. These practices have been carried forward for generations.

Hawaiian plants are the foundation of Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices and are used not only for religious practices, but in natural resource practices such as *lawai'a* (fishing), *mahiai* (agricultural practices), *laau lapa'au* (medicinal practices) and many others. Very often, one can tell what the traditional practices are in an area by the type of plants that are grown and nurtured there. This kind of education can be shared in public landscaping projects by planting flora that are known to be from that specific place.

We believe that this bill is necessary and long-overdue. It will bring a much needed understanding of how Native Hawaiian and Hawaiian traditional and customary rights and natural resource protection are embodied in the very nature of an area by the kinds of plants that are grown there. Putting these specific plants in the landscaping of state buildings and facilities will share this knowledge of the traditional use of a place with the general public, foster a better understanding of the Native Hawaiian host culture of that area and enhance the local environment as well as strengthening the support of the Hawaii State government for the Native Hawaiian culture.

We humbly ask that this committee pass this measure.

LATE



LATE

Testimony Before The House
Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources and Hawaiian Affairs
IN SUPPORT OF SB 435 SD2
Wednesday, March 18, 2015, 10:00AM, Room 325

My name is Kevin Chang and I am the Executive Director of Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo (or KUA). KUA works to empower grassroots rural and Native Hawaiian mālama 'āina groups to celebrate their places and pass on their traditions to better Hawai'i and achieve 'āina momona— an abundant, productive ecological system that supports community well-being.

KUA supports SB 435 SD2 as an incremental step towards 'āina momona. This bill would require that, subject to exceptions, all plans, designs, and specifications for new or renovated landscaping of State-developed buildings, complexes, facilities, or housing incorporate native Hawaiian plants.

We employ a community-driven approach that currently supports a network of more than 31 mālama 'āina community groups collectively referred to as E Alu Pū (moving forward together), 40 fishpond projects and practitioners called the Hui Mālama Loko I'a, and a new and growing hui of Limu practitioners all from across our state.

Many of the communities in the networks we facilitate focus on better natural resource management and restoration of native ecological systems and values more sensitive to the needs of their wahi (their places). This often includes the use of native plants as part of an appropriate place based approach to restoration from mauka to makai.

Our communities are committed to ensuring the long-term health of our cultural and natural resources because they have depended on them for generations. This bill among others is an exciting trend towards increasing government's role as a partner with our communities to restore the abundance that we are often so nostalgic about.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

Aloha 'Āina Momona

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 8:43 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: auntyaina@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB435 on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM

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LATE

SB435

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for OMH on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

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

Comments: So thrilled to see a bill like this come up for funding! I a "transplant" from mainland, on island for nearly a decade, quite blrsed last year to join a hui to own 3.3 ac on along and in.Kaiwaipapa Stream/gulch in Kawaipapa, Hana, Maui. I am born n raised in Queens NYC. Ten.yrs ago was invitited to move to Upper Kula, one way ticket, and fell in love w island and as a property owner now in Hawaiian population area, believe I am a steward of Kawaipapa. I am so grateful to have been a volunteer for Waimakoi (pull super invasive Kahili ginger) and Auwahi on leeward Maui. I leaned valuable info on removing invasives/replant natives to restotee watershed/getting da 'aina planted w a'ali'i to ptotect more delicate natives esp endanget red. So thankful to.Pat Bily and Art Medieros. I fully support anx hope tax/Fed money support this endeavor.ahalo! I typr on a ' cbphone' only 1x/3g. Ce connect here, sorry for typis! By

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Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2015 9:07 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: leimomikekina@gmail.com
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SB435

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for OMH on Mar 18, 2015 10:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leimomi Dierks	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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