

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



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STATE PARKS

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson

Before the Senate Committee on
WAYS AND MEANS

Tuesday, April 3, 2018
10:20 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

In consideration of
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 95, SENATE DRAFT 1
SENATE RESOLUTION 55, SENATE DRAFT 1
SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF
AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY,
O'AHU, AND URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES TO
ACQUIRE AND PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES AND
TRAILS AND WATERS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY

Senate Concurrent Resolution 95, Senate Draft 1/Senate Resolution 55, Senate Draft 1 urge the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department), along with other governmental entities, to work with The Trust for Public Land and Hui Maunawili-Kawainui in their efforts to acquire important and rich agricultural, cultural, and historic lands at Maunawili. **The Department supports these measures.**

The Department supports the conservation and management of the many significant cultural, historic, recreational, and forested watershed features within Maunawili. Additionally, the Department will work with the landowner and interested parties in the community to purchase these lands, as appropriate, through collaborative, voluntary action to restore ecological connectivity within the ahupuaa and protect recreational access to Maunawili, Olomana, and Waimanalo, a host of archeological and historic sites, and important agricultural lands.

Community participation in the management of these lands would be a critical component to the success of Department restoration efforts.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these measures.



Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i

April 02, 2018

Chair Donovan M. Dela Cruz
Vice Chair Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran

Senator J. Kalani English
Senator Brickwood Galuteria
Senator Breene Harimoto

Senator Lorraine R. Inouye
Senator Kaiali'i Kahele
Senator Michelle N. Kidani
Senator Gil Riviere
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro
Senator Glenn Wakai

Re: SCR 95 / SR55

SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY, O'AHU, AND URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES TO ACQUIRE AND PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES AND TRAILS AND WATERS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY.

Position: STRONG SUPPORT.

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and members of the committee,

Thank you for scheduling this important measure that aims to preserve the prime agricultural land in Maunawili and Kawainui, which is currently facing plans for extensive development. The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i strongly supports measures that protect Hawai'i's precious natural resources, as does the Democratic Party of Hawai'i Platform.

This land has important agricultural, historical, cultural, and community value. It is traditional Hawaiian knowledge that the soil in Maunawili is the most fertile in the ahupua'a, if not the entire island:

"Palawai [in Maunawili] was the place where taro was planted most and that was the taro that supplied the chiefs when they called for ho'okupu."

- Hika'alani, Born in Kailua circa 1821

Maunawili is currently home to a thriving lo'i which hosts educational workdays for local schools, teaching students valuable lessons in farming, physical exercise, ecosystem science, community values, Hawaiian culture, and history.

Any development and interruptions to the streams in Maunawili will impact the rest of the waterways from the Kawainui marsh to the ocean. Reducing the streamflow would

be devastating to the marsh ecosystem, which provides primary habitat for four of Hawaii's endemic and endangered waterbirds, including Laysan Duck and Nene Goose.

The Environmental Caucus, on behalf of our general members who voted to protect and preserve Agricultural resources as a priority, respectfully urge this committee to pass this measure. It is now more important than ever to increase sustainable local food production, protect critical habitat for native species, and promote responsible natural resource stewardship to preserve what's left of our environment.

Mahalo for your efforts to secure an environmentally sustainable future for Hawai'i. Our community, livelihood, and economy depend on it.

Respectfully submitted,

Natalia Hussey-Burdick
Secretary
(808) 688-3481
ecodemhi@gmail.com

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor

DOUGLAS S. CHIN
Lt. Governor



State of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1428 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-2512
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SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

PHYLLIS SHIMABUKURO-GEISER
Deputy to the Chairperson

**TESTIMONY OF SCOTT E. ENRIGHT
CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE**

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS

**APRIL 3, 2018
10:20 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 211**

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 95 SD1/SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 55 SD1

**SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF
AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY OAHU, AND
URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES TO ACQUIRE AND
PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES AND TRAILS AND WATERS IN
MAUNAWILI VALLEY.**

Chairpersons Rhoads, Chairperson Nishihara and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SCR 95 SD1/SR 55 SD1 that requests the Department of Land and Natural Resources, the Department of Agriculture, the City and County of Honolulu, and other entities to work with The Trust for Public Lands and Hui Maunawili-Kawainui in their efforts to acquire the agricultural, cultural, and historic lands within Maunawili Valley. The Department of Agriculture supports the intent and offers comments.

These resolutions should identify the primary purpose(s) of the proposed acquisition of the identified properties – environmental (protect the marsh), cultural, historic, and/or re-establish agricultural production capacity. This will determine what kind of land management organization is needed to carry out the purpose(s) to be protected and/or developed under conservation easement or fee purchase of the affected properties.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.



Testimony Supporting SCR95 SD1 and SR55 SD1
Relating to Conserving the Maunawili forest and lo'i
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Tuesday, April 3, 2018, 10:20AM, Conference Room 211

SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF
AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY,
O'AHU, AND URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES
TO ACQUIRE AND PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES
AND TRAILS AND WATERS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY.

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Committee Members,

The Boardmembers of Hui Kawainui-Kailua Ka Wai Ola strongly support the purchase, preservation, and restoration of the 900+ privately -owned acres in Maunawili Valley, TMK no's. (1)4-2-006:001, (1)4-2-006:008, (1)4-2-007:001, (1)4-2-008:001, (1)4-2-008:005, and (1)4-2-009:001. We are a working group focused on restoration and health of the Kailua ahupua'a watershed, of which Maunawili, Kawainui and Hāmākau wetlands are predominate features. Specific projects such as the creation of buffer zones/rain gardens to protect the Kailua watershed, support for sustainability measures such as kalo agriculture and aquaculture at Kawainui and Maunawili, environmental education, watershed research and education, hydrologic research and education, supporting cultural education and practices, and acquiring the wetlands and historical sites of Maunawili for preservation, are goals of our organization.

We are concerned about the years of neglect and abuse suffered by the wetlands and surrounding lands of Kawainui and Maunawili. We are concerned about the destruction of wetland bird habitats, lowland native forest loss, the tremendous loss of native fish and other aquatic life, the proliferation of invasive species, the lack of knowledge about the geological and archaeological history of these areas, ignorance of the mo'olelo of the Kailua ahupua'a and its ancient native Hawaiian culture.

Purchase of the wetlands and surrounding lands of Maunawili, which include Queen's Retreat, ancient heiau and other historical, cultural sites in order to prevent further destruction of these areas is a priority of our organization. We are extremely saddened by the deterioration of the ancient historical sites in Maunawili and it is a goal of our organization to restore, preserve, and help manage and educate at these sites in cooperation with the State and the other Kailua Hawaiian cultural/environmental organizations currently working at Kawainui Marsh. Our goal is to bring educational opportunities to Maunawili and Kawainui because we view place-based learning as key to providing rich, meaningful, and comprehensive learning experiences as well as promoting stewardship, a sense of protecting the 'aina, and value for native culture and natural resources. We recognize that healing the 'aina heals ourselves so bringing youth onto the land for the opportunity of participating in learning experiences outside of the classroom can be transformative and lead them toward a more fulfilling, meaningful path.

Place-based learning has been demonstrated to increase knowledge retention, comprehension, and involvement, curiosity and excitement about learning.

We envision an education/visitor center at the Queen's Retreat to accomplish managed access to the Maunawili Trail and sites such as Queen's Bath at Queen's Retreat. For example, we envision visitors to Queen's Retreat and the Maunawili Trail funneled through an education center where they would be taught about the ancient history of this area, its endangered species, its natural resources, ongoing restoration efforts, and how to help protect the area and cultural sites. Signage would indicate restrictions for visitors before they are given access to the trail and historical sites, and rangers would be necessary to monitor activity. A solution to the public access issues associated use of Maunawili Trail and Olomana Trail would have to be part of the planning process for the area. In general, we support locating trailhead parking and restrooms outside of neighborhoods.

Another one of our objectives is to obtain these parcels in order to grow food crops once again in Maunawili Valley in order to contribute to achieving food sustainability in Hawai'i. Food sustainability and native plant restoration achieved by growing indigenous and endemic plants compatible with eliminating water pollution in the wetlands through modern and ancient eco-engineering technology is a goal of our organization. As part of that goal, we plan to partner with mahi'ai Dean Wilhelm and Mark Stride in Maunawili to teach alienated youth from various programs, including the Youth Community Correctional Center, through development of a year long Hawaiian farming curriculum supported by the DOE.

The Maunawili lands hold the network of streams that feed Kawainui marsh, so the health of Kawainui, another priority of our organization, is dependent on the health of the mauka Maunawili lands. The mission of our organization, Hui Kawainui-Kailua Wai Ola, is to care for the living waters that flow through the Kailua ahupua'a by utilizing traditional ancient Hawaiian knowledge as well as contemporary scientific knowledge to educate, restore, revitalize, preserve, and manage natural and cultural water resources.

We also wish to protect and improve the habitats for native and endangered species in the area, including three endangered Hawaiian damselflies, the Hawaiian Hoary Bat, O'ahu 'Elepaio, and native plants such as 'Akoko, 'Oh'ohe, Alani, and Haha. Therefore, it is the wish of our organization to acquire the wetlands, additional farmlands, trails, and ancient historical sites of Maunawili in order to preserve, restore and protect them and and achieve the goals and objectives discussed within this testimony.

By preserving and protecting the Maunawili lands, we preserve something invaluable for future generations. Maunawili and its natural resources, amazing beauty, endangered species habitats, important cultural sites, and ancient majesty will be lost forever with the development of roads and housing on its wetlands and agricultural and historical lands.

Aloha ‘Aina ‘Ola‘i‘o,

Hui Kawainui-Kailua Ka Wai Ola Boardmembers

Charles Pe‘ape‘a Makawalu K. Burrows, Chairman

Bill Sager, Vice President

Paul Brennan, Treasurer

Beth Anderson, Recorder

Testimony of Hika‘alani on SCR 95, SD 1 and SR 55, SD1

**SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF
AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY, O‘AHU,
AND URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES TO ACQUIRE
AND PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES AND TRAILS AND
WATERS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY**

Decision Making

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Tuesday, April 3, 2018, 10:20 a.m., Conference Room 211

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Committee Members:

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit this testimony on behalf of Hika‘alani in **strong support** of SCR 95, SD 1 and SR 55, SD1 supporting the purchase, preservation, and restoration of more than 900-acres of agricultural and conservation lands in Maunawili Valley in the ahupua‘a of Kailua.

Hika‘alani is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, founded in 2010, dedicated to the restoration of indigenous land-use, culture, and identity in Kailua, O‘ahu. We are educators, scholars, and practitioners of Hawaiian culture with deep-rooted ties to our Kailua home. We are currently based at Ulupō Heiau State Park where, as the DLNR-sanctioned curators of those 11 acres, we have removed invasive vegetation, replanted natives, rebuilt walls, restored more than 20 lo‘i kalo for non-commercial community consumption, and conducted educational programs for O‘ahu students and educators in elementary, secondary, and post-secondary schools. In 2017, we hosted 3,000 service learners from more than 25 schools and community organizations. Because of our program’s success, we are expecting close to 5,000 service learners in 2018. As a measure of the growing recognition of our work, we were honored that members of our team gave both the keynote address and served as site-visit hosts for the Department of Education’s HĀ summit, held earlier this month at Windward Community College.

Because of our work at Ulupō and Kawainui, protecting the network of streams that feed Kawainui is of vital importance to Hika‘alani. We recognize that the health of Kawainui is dependent on the health of the mauka Maunawili lands and that they are really part of the same ecological system, artificially divided by the highway. The Maunawili wetlands, together with Kawainui, constitute the most intact traditional landscape in the Kailua ahupua‘a. From our work in the area we currently care for and restore at Ulupō Nui, we see in the Maunawili lands the potential for agriculture, and the culture associated with that agriculture. This is especially true because the Maunawili lands include almost all of Kailua’s Hanalei soil – the richest and most fertile soil in Hawai‘i – and can once again grow kalo and other healthy food crops that can significantly increase local food production. Hika‘alani would be happy to have the opportunity to be part of a group of mahi‘ai (farmers) to open up the rich agricultural and kalo lands of Maunawili.

Hika‘alani hopes some day to have a presence in Maunawili, as we do at Ulupō, to expand our work. We believe that the health of people is mirrored in the health of the land and vice-versa. We know this connection is compounded when we analyze Hawaiian people and Hawaiian lands. If we work to clean and restore our lands, we are also restoring the health, identity, and survival of the people.

When our community and particularly our youth come to the sacred ancestral sites of Ulupō, Kukanono, and Kawainui, we explain the stories of these places – the akua, aumākua, and the people associated with these places. The immediate paradigm shift that occurs in our community as they learn these stories and step into the foot holds of our kūpuna are unbelievable. We know many of the stories of Maunawili and of the heiau, sacred stones, trails, and even more recent historical sites, such as the Queen’s Retreat, in Maunawili. But knowing those stories in the abstract, as opposed to being able to see and experience them on the ‘āina, to actually step into the foot holds of our kūpuna, is a very different matter.

We still have springs flowing out of the base of Ulupō and into lo‘i kalo, the waters of the Kawainui fishpond are still there beneath the invasive species, and we still have the people who know how to care for these resources. All it takes are safe sites of connection in and around our Kailua ahupua‘a for our community groups and school groups to access, learn, understand, and love. We envision a similar process taking place for the Maunawili lands – lands where kalo can grow abundantly, where we can step into the foot holds of our kūpuna, and where our young people can flourish.

The opportunity for many government agencies and public organizations working together to purchase the lands currently owned by HRT Realty, Inc., in Maunawili is unprecedented. Many of our members live in Maunawili or have deep ancestral ties to Maunawili, and we at Hika‘alani are excited by this possibility and strongly support this collaborative effort.

Mahalo for the opportunity to present Hika‘alani’s testimony on SCR 95, SD 1 and SR 55, SD 1.

Melody Kapilialoha MacKenzie
Secretary/Treasurer of Hika‘alani

Charlene Ka‘olu Luning
Program Manager

Bert Kaleomanuiwa Wong
Paku‘i Hou, Hika‘alani Program Director for Ulupō Nui

Hika‘alani website: hikaalani.website/index.html

Hui Maunawili-Kawainui
Testimony on SCR 95 and SR 55

SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF
AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY, O‘AHU,
AND URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES TO ACQUIRE
AND PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES AND TRAILS AND
WATERS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY

Decision Making
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Tuesday, April 3, 2018, 10:20 a.m., Conference Room 211

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Committee Members:

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit this testimony on behalf of the Hui Maunawili-Kawainui **strongly supporting** SCR 95, SD 1 and SR 55, SD 1, both of which express support for the purchase, preservation, and restoration of more than 900 acres of privately-owned land in Maunawili.

The Hui is a group of descendants and residents of Maunawili and Kailua who represent a coalition of Hawaiian cultural and environmental organizations. Our purpose is to protect prime agricultural and culturally significant lands in Maunawili. We have joined together to restore the health of Maunawili so that the valley can resume its vital and traditional role in the ahupua‘a of Kailua as a source of free-flowing fresh water and place of abundant agriculture and rich cultural resources. We support strengthening the Native Hawaiian presence and traditional practices in the ahupua‘a of Kailua, particularly in growing kalo and other healthy foods to feed future generations of our community. Maunawili is a storied place in Hawaiian culture, a place of abundance, where lo‘i kalo provided food not solely for Kailua, but for the entire Ko‘olaupoko area and beyond. Our vision is to restore Maunawili to that place of abundance, growth, and healing for all in Hawai‘i.

The Hui Maunawili-Kawainui has been working with the Trust for Public Land in its efforts to purchase the 900-plus acres in Maunawili currently owned by HRT Realty, Inc., to ensure that those lands will be held as a public trust resource for the benefit of all. These lands are exceptionally rich in resources including:

- a critical watershed containing Maunawili’s many streams and springs, which are the primary stream system for Kawainui watershed and the ahupua‘a of Kailua;
- the majority of the Proposed Important Agricultural Lands in the ahupua‘a, containing rich Hanalei Series soil, the most productive kalo growing soil in Hawai‘i;
- the potential to significantly improve the State’s future food security and sustainability because of the above soil and water features, and access to markets, all of which qualify much of this land for the critical designation as Important Agricultural Lands;
- numerous significant ancient and historic sites, including the Queen’s Retreat;
- historic roads and trails that rightly belong in the public domain; and

- endangered species including Hawaiian damselflies, the Hawaiian hoary bat, O‘ahu ‘Elepaio, the Newell’s shearwater, Hawaiian stilt, Hawaiian gallinule, Hawaiian coot and Hawaiian duck and the threatened Newell’s shearwater.

The Hui Maunawili-Kawainui particularly wishes to call the Committee’s attention to the long history of public interest in acquiring and protecting these Maunawili lands. As SCR 95, SD1 and SR 55, SD 1 state, the 1994 Kawai Nui Marsh Master Plan recommended that the State acquire the Wetland/Semi-Wetland and upland areas in Maunawili, noting that they are a vital part of the economic, ecological, and cultural resources of Kawainui Marsh, and are separated from Kawainui only by the highway. It has been almost twenty-five years since that recommendation, but no progress has been made on public acquisition of the lands until now.

We are very encouraged that HRT Realty, Inc., the property holder for the Harry & Jeannette Weinberg Foundation, is willing to work towards the purchase of its Maunawili lands. The purpose of the Weinberg Foundation is to address the needs of children, the poor, and the disadvantaged. We believe that the mission of the Weinberg Foundation aligns with Hui Maunawili-Kawainui’s vision to protect and preserve the natural and cultural resources of the ahupua‘a of Kailua and the traditions associated with them, which are vital to the well-being of Hawai‘i and its people.

We look forward to our continued collaboration with the Trust for Public Land in seeking funding for this acquisition and we ask this Committee to pass SCR 95, SD 1 and SR 55, SD 1 in support of our collective efforts. Mahalo for the opportunity to present this testimony.

Melody Kapilialoha MacKenzie
On behalf of the Hui Maunawili-Kailua

Hui Maunawili-Kawainui Founding Board

Beth Anderson - Hui Kawainui-Kailua Ka Wai Ola
Paul Brennan – Kailua Historical Society
Chuck Burrows - Hui Kawainui-Kailua Ka Wai Ola
Laurie Carlson – Maunawili Resident
Kīhei de Silva - Hālau Mōhala ‘Ilima, Hika‘alani, Kailua Hawaiian Civic Club
Māpuana de Silva - Hālau Mōhala ‘Ilima, Hika‘alani, Kailua Hawaiian Civic Club
Lehuakona Isaacs - ‘Ahahui Mālama i ka Lōkahi
Mei Ling Isaacs - ‘Ahahui Mālama i ka Lōkahi
Herb Lee - Pacific American Foundation, Hui Kawainui-Kailua Ka Wai Ola
Melody Kapilialoha MacKenzie – Hika‘alani
Alan Murakami – Maunawili resident
Barbara Pope - Maunawili resident
Deborah Pope – Kailua resident with multi-generational ties to Maunawili
Oz Stender - Maunawili resident
Mark Paikuli Stride - Luluku Farmers Association, Aloha ‘Āina Health and Learning Center
Dean Wilhelm - Ho‘okua‘āina at Kapalai Farms

Testimony Supporting SCR95 SD1 and SR55 SD1
Relating to Conserving the Maunawili Forest and Lo‘i
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Tuesday, April 3, 2018, 10:20 AM, Conference Room 211

SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF
AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY, O‘AHU,
AND URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES TO ACQUIRE
AND PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES AND TRAILS AND
WATERS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY.

April 1, 2018

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Committee Members,

I am Māpuana de Silva, a 67-year resident of Ka‘ōhāo, Kailua, O‘ahu, and the founder of Hālau Mōhala ‘Ilima (HMI) a school of traditional hula that, like me, is Kailua-grounded and Kailua-strong.

I founded my school in January 1976, five months after I graduated as kumu hula from Auntie Maiki Aiu Lake. In the 42 years since Auntie Maiki’s little blessing of the concrete slab in my mother’s back yard, my hālau has become something of an anchor institution in the often troubled seas of contemporary Hawaiian culture. I credit this success to the many loyal students of that concrete slab (and its later iterations) who have established themselves in all walks of life without surrendering their ties to the core values of our kūpuna. I credit it, as well, to HMI’s early and ongoing focus on the land to which we are most closely attached – to Kailua, Ko‘olaupoko, O‘ahu – and to Kailua’s enormously rich legacy of celebrated places and people, of chant, dance, story, and song. Briefly put, our love for our ancestors and ‘āina has allowed us to hold fast in the turning tide.

I am writing, with the full support of my students and their families, in equally full support of the SCR95 SD1 and SR55 SD1 resolutions to endorse the efforts of Hui Maunawili-Kawainui to purchase, preserve, and restore the 900-plus acres of HRT-owned lands in Maunawili Valley. These lands are invaluable to us for reasons that I will do my best to explain below.

First: as keepers of the mele and mo‘olelo (the chants, songs, and stories) of Kailua – and of the hula that accompany them – we urge the purchase, preservation, and restoration of the very lands that lie at the heart of our ancestral literature. We point, for example, to “Makalei ka Laau Pii Ona a ka Ia,” a long, complex, and chant-filled story of a boy from Maunawili who is

instrumental in restoring fish and taro abundance to his ahupua‘a. The parallels between this centuries-old story and the current conditions in upper Maunawili are striking; what better way to instruct our youth in pono (harmony, balance, righteous behavior and action) than to teach this mo‘olelo and its accompanying poetry on the restored lands to which it constantly refers.

Second: as an affiliate of Hika‘alani (the non-profit curators of the 11 acres that constitute the Ulupō Heiau State Park) and as members of Hika‘alani’s volunteer army of small-scale taro farmers on the banks of lower Kawainui, we urge the purchase, preservation, and restoration of the network of Maunawili springs and streams that feeds Kawainui. The health of one is contingent on the health of the other. Both, in fact, are one and the same, and the vision we have of a thriving Kawainui fishpond and a taro-rich perimeter will not come to pass without a concerted effort to mālama the source of the “Big Fresh Water.”

Third: as food-sovereignty advocates and practitioners, we urge the purchase, preservation, and restoration of the incredibly fertile taro lands of Maunawili. We are long-time allies and partners of Mark Stride and Dean Wilhelm (Maunawili taro farmers/educators/healers par excellence), and we dream with them over how those now weed-invaded Hanalei soils might again feed our community and serve as the ultimate classroom-without-walls for what Dean calls “rebuilding lives from the ground up.”

And Fourth: as partners of Kailua Kau a Ho‘oilō, the native Hawaiian organization dedicated to caring and speaking for Kailua’s iwi kūpuna, we urge the purchase and protection of Maunawili lands on which potential burials may exist and where a burial treatment plan for a 1980s discovery of ancestral remains in the area of the Queen’s Retreat has yet to be approved. Mary Kawena Pukui has reminded us that our iwi kūpuna are our greatest treasure; we cannot countenance their neglect and possible abuse if we are to define ourselves as caretakers of the land from which we were born.

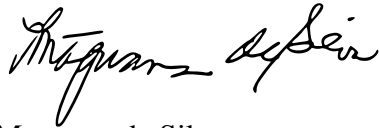
In conclusion, allow me to offer an old but new vision of a restored Maunawili as it connects to an equally restored Kawainui and a thriving ahupua‘a. It was published in the Hawaiian language newspaper *Kuokoa* on January 13, 1922, and is said to have been composed many centuries earlier by the people of Kailua in joyful tribute to the name and good works of their overseer chief, Ahiki. Indeed, the magnitude of Ahiki’s generosity and kind leadership was such that “me he mea ia, aole lakou he poe okoa, aka, he ohana koko pono no keia konohiki a ka lokomaikai nui wale” – it was as if they were not a separate people but of the same family and blood as this extraordinarily good-hearted konohiki. So great, in fact, was their esteem for Ahiki that they gave his name to one of the Olomana peaks, and “ua paa ia inoa ahiki loa mai ia kaua e

ka mea heluhelu i keia la” – and this name has held fast all the long way to us, O reader, in this our own day.

Ki‘eki‘e i luna ke kū ‘o Ahiki
Holo ana ke aka i Kawainui
Nānā a‘e ‘oe i ke alo pali
He maika‘i nō mai luna a lalo
A lalo ē
I laila māua me ka Malanai
E wehe aku i ka lau o ke ‘uki
‘Āwili me ka neki o Mokulana
Me ka i‘a ho‘opā ‘ili kānaka
I laila ē
A he waiwai nō ka hale, e ku‘u aloha
Nou nō ka hewa i ke kipa ‘ole ‘ana mai
‘A‘ole anei ē?

High above is the peak, Ahiki
Its shadow sails below on Kawainui
Won’t you look at the face of the pali
So beautiful from top to bottom
To the bottom, indeed.
The two of us could be there in the Malanai
Parting the leaves of ‘uki
Entwined with the sedges of Mokulana
With fish that finds our skins irresistible
There, indeed.
This house has great value, my beloved
And it would be a shame if you didn’t visit
Isn’t this so?

Mahalo nui for your attention and consideration,



Māpuana de Silva
Founder, Director, and Lead Teacher
Hālau Mōhala ‘Ilima
kumumapuana@gmail.com

SCR-95-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 9:40:15 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:20:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Addison Davis	Testifying for Wild Kids Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Committee Members,

I, Addison Davis strongly support the purchase, preservation and restoration of the 900+ privately-owned acres in Maunawili, TMK No.s: (1)4-2-006:001, (1)4-2-006:008, (1)4-2-007:001, (1)4-2-008:001, (1)4-2-008:005, and (1)4-2-009:001.

I work as an intern for Wild Kids Hawaii, an outdoor experiential learning program based out of Kailua. Our philosophy is that People Protect What They Love, and in order to nurture this principle we take K-12 students into the forest behind Le Jardin Academy after school. However, one of the most notable parts of our organization is that we engage in Service Learning Trips to Ho'okua'aina Farm. Allowing students to learn about the cultivation of Native Foods like Kalo is extremely important as it helps students learn about the history and Mo'olelo of their home. We also take students to the Kahana Iki site at Kawainui Marsh. The lands in Maunawili include a network of streams that feed Kawainui marsh, so the health of Kawainui is dependent on the health of the mauka Maunawili lands. Together with Kawainui marsh, the lands constitute the most intact traditional landscape in the Kailua ahupua'a.

Next year, I will be leaving my home state of Hawai'i, as I head off to college. Leaving behind my work at Wild Kids to my successors. However, in order for us to continue teaching students about the Land in which they live, the land has to be protected. We need to preserve our homes, so that we can continue to teach the youth of Hawai'i about the history of their state.

Mahalo,

Addison Davis, 18 Years Old, 198 Awakea Rd, Kailua HI 96734



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The Trust for Public Land's Testimony Supporting SCR95 SD1 and SR55 SD1 Relating to Conserving the Maunawili forest and lo'i

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Tuesday, April 3, 2018, 10:20AM, Conference Room 211

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Committee Members,

The Trust for Public Land appreciates this opportunity to express its strongest support for the resolution demonstrating legislative support for the purchase, preservation, and restoration of over 900 privately-owned acres in Maunawili. Hui Maunawili-Kawainui, a coalition of Kailua community organizations and leaders, asked The Trust for Public Land for assistance toward achieving a potential conservation purchase, and we are humbled to assist the community and the State in this important, community-driven, and collaborative effort.

The Trust for Public Land is a national non-profit organization that creates parks and conserves land for people, ensuring healthy livable communities for generations to come. In Hawai'i, health is the foundation of our work. We focus on meaningfully connecting people to the land and each other, and support the empowerment of underserved and Native Hawaiian communities. We have helped to conserve over 43,500 acres, to purchase and conserve 34 significant places across the islands for government agencies and local nonprofits.

The Maunawili lands should be protected for several reasons. The biocultural resources of the Maunawili lands are irreplaceable. In ancient times, the land, which is largely wetlands, was extensively farmed in kalo and other crops, and the kalo from the area was famed for its sweetness and specifically requested by the ali'i. It therefore makes sense that the Maunawili properties include the vast majority of Hanalei soil in the Kailua ahupua'a; the most rich and productive soil in all of Hawai'i. Recently, nearby Maunawili kalo farmers have demonstrated that this land can not only still produce kalo and other healthy food crops, but also be a place of learning for many school children and their families. Removing invasive species and returning these lands to agricultural production will have the added benefit of improving the health of Kawainui Marsh into which the waters from the Maunawili lands flow, and creating native wetland bird habitat.

The lands also have immense historical value of importance to all of Hawai'i. It was on these lands where Queen Lili'uokalani would retreat, where she would bathe in "Queen's Bath", and where she wrote the song "Aloha 'Oe" after seeing a couple in a farewell embrace. This area called "Queen's Retreat" still remains, as do the numerous cultural sites from ancient times, including the extensive lo'i kalo terrace walls, heiau, petroglyphs, birthing stones, and burials.

In addition, the Maunawili lands include historic trails that provide potential cultural and recreational opportunities. A conservation purchase of the lands could also solve



the neighborhood parking and other problems associated with Maunawili Trail and Olomana Trail. Relocating the trailhead, and relieving the trail access burden on the residential community is a priority as this land protection effort progresses.

The Trust for Public Land is currently negotiating a conservation purchase with the private owner, and is grateful for their willingness to work towards a solution for these lands that would be a win all around - for the community, the environment, the landowner, and Hawaiian culture. The State, through the Department of Land and Natural Resources, and the Department of Agriculture, would own the majority, if not all of the lands, and steward the lands in true partnership with the Kailua community, including farmers and Hawaiian cultural practitioners. A resolution from the Hawai'i State Legislature supporting the private-public effort to purchase, preserve, and restore these Maunawili lands would encourage all parties involved, and provide a showing of State support when The Trust for Public Land, DLNR, and Hui Maunawili-Kawainui seek non-State funding for the purchase.

Mahalo piha for the opportunity to provide testimony in support,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Laura H. E. Kaakua', written in a cursive style.

Laura H. E. Kaakua
Native Lands Project Manager
The Trust for Public Land
Phone: (808)524-8562
Email: laura.kaakua@tpl.org
www.tpl.org/hawaii

Testimony Supporting SCR95 SD1 and SR55 SD1
Relating to Conserving the Maunawili Forest and Lo‘i
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Tuesday, April 3, 2018, 10:20AM, Conference Room 211

SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF
AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY,
O‘AHU, AND URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES TO
ACQUIRE AND PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES AND TRAILS
AND WATERS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY.

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith Agaran, and Committee Members,

The Kailua Hawaiian Civic Club is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to the perpetuation of our Hawaiian people, culture, and natural resources. We have held fast to the same threefold mission in the six decades of our existence; we strive to: 1- advance the appreciation, study, and practice of Hawaiian culture, 2- enrich the lives of Hawaiians and our Kailua community, and 3- mālama the lands, waters, and wahi pana of our ahupua‘a.

We are one of the founding members of Hui Maunawili-Kawainui – the lead organization in the effort to restore Maunawili to its vital and traditional role in the Kailua ahupua‘a – and we enjoy very close relationships with a number of Kailua’s Hawaiian organizations including: ‘Ahahui Mālama ka Lōkahi (‘āina educator-curators at Nā Pōhaku o Hauwahine), Hika‘alani (‘āina educator-curators at Ulupō Heiau), Ho‘okua‘āina (‘āina educator-curators at Kapalai), Hālau Mōhala ‘Ilima (hula educator-curators at Ka‘ōhao), and Kailua Kau a Ho‘oilo (iwi kūpuna curators at Wai‘auia).

It was in conjunction with these partner organizations that we introduced resolution 2017-30 at the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs’ convention held in November of 2017. The resolution URGING STRONG SUPPORT FOR THE PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION OF MAUNAWILI VALLEY LANDS was passed on the floor of this Seattle convention, speaks with the authority of our 58-club, 300-delegate organization, and is included in the appendix to this letter.

In brief, our club and association recognize the enormous value of the 900 acres of Maunawili lands currently owned by HRT-Weinberg and the land’s consequent vulnerability to subdivision and gentleman-estate development. The land is storied. It lives in the mele and mo‘olelo of our ancestors. It is the land of Liliu‘okalani’s “Aloha ‘Oe,” of Keko‘owai’s “Makalei Ka Laau Pii Ona A Ka Ia,” of “He Ua La He Ua,” “Palila,” “Lonokaeho,” and “Pele and Hi‘iaka.” The land is extraordinarily fertile. Its Hanalei soils supplied the entire district of Ko‘olaupoko with an abundance of food, and its now weed-swallowed lo‘i are still the envy of taro farmers the island over. The land supports a network of springs and streams that once fed the equally

productive Kawainui fishpond, and these waters are still inextricably related to the health of our wetlands, canal, and bay. The land, finally and ultimately, is our parent. What we learn in the scattered pockets of ‘āina that we are currently able to mālama (at Ulupō, at Nā Pōhaku, at Kapalai) is that ‘āina nurtures us in ways that cannot be quantified on spread sheets or statements of profit and loss. It is inseparable from who we are and how we define ourselves. Maunawili is all this writ large.

We believe that its value, though staggering in terms of real-estate potential, is considerably more important to our community as a place of sustainability and healing. Of food sovereignty. Of cultural education and grounding. Of environmental stewardship. Of hope for a future that is less and less dependent on imported economies.

It is because of our long-term commitment to aloha ‘āina, to our unwavering love for our land, that we therefore offer our emphatic support for HCR152 and HR133.

Me ka ha‘aha‘a,



Kīhei de Silva

2nd Vice President, Kailua Hawaiian Civic Club

desilvak009@gmail.com

<http://kailuahawaiiancivicclub.org/index.html>

**ASSOCIATION OF HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUBS
RESOLUTION NO. 2017-30
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON, NOVEMBER 2017
URGING STRONG SUPPORT FOR THE PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION OF
MAUNAWILI VALLEY LANDS**

WHEREAS, Maunawili Valley in the ahupua‘a of Kailua is celebrated in story and chant for its association with akua, ali‘i, and cultural heroes; and

WHEREAS, Maunawili valley contains wetlands, streams and/or freshwater springs that provide most of the water that flows to the Kawainui Marsh ecosystem and more than 50 springs and smaller streams are present, including Maunawili Stream, the most significant stream in the ahupua‘a; and

WHEREAS, ancient and historic sites throughout Maunawili valley include heiau, sacred stones, petroglyphs, Hawaiian burials, alanui, house sites, grinding stones, irrigated and dryland agricultural terraces, large ‘auwai related to extensive lo‘i, and nineteenth and early twentieth

century structures related to agriculture and food production; and

WHEREAS, the 1994 Kawainui Master Plan recommended the State acquire the privately-owned Wetland/Semi-Wetland areas in Maunawili, noting that they are hydrologically part of Kawainui Marsh and separated only by the highway and that acquisition would “protect the wetlands from future undesired developments” and inappropriate alteration of the landscape and waterways; and

WHEREAS, the State has not secured these Maunawili lands, which remain privately owned; and

WHEREAS, HRT Ltd., owner of more than 1,000 acres in Maunawili including the Royal Hawaiian Golf Course, has filed applications with the City Department of Planning and Permitting to subdivide hundreds of acres of open space and important agricultural lands in Maunawili valley; and

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need to protect and conserve the Maunawili wetlands, semi-wetlands, proposed Important Agricultural Lands, fresh water resources, ancient and historic sites, and historic trails within the vital context of agricultural sustainability; and

WHEREAS, there is also a need to provide managed and restricted access to State trails in proximity to Maunawili Historic Wetland/Semi-Wetland areas and The Queen’s Retreat; and

WHEREAS, the Hui Maunawili-Kawainui is a group of descendants and residents of Maunawili and Kailua who represent a coalition of Hawaiian cultural and environmental organizations, including the Kailua Hawaiian Civic Club, who have joined together to protect prime agricultural and culturally significant lands in Maunawili; and

WHEREAS, the Hui Maunawili-Kawainui seeks to restore the health of Maunawili so that the valley can resume its vital and traditional role in the ahupua‘a of Kailua as a source of free-flowing fresh water and place of abundant agriculture and rich cultural resources; and

WHEREAS, the Hui Maunawili-Kawainui has been increasing public awareness of Maunawili’s significance, as a source of freshwater for the ahupua‘a of Kailua with important agricultural lands, and a place rich with natural, cultural and historic resources; and

WHEREAS, Governor David H. Ige has declared a state goal to double local food production by 2020, which is in line with Maunawili’s legacy as historically fertile ground for the production of food crops; and

WHEREAS, the Hui Maunawili-Kawainui has met with numerous State and County officials and elected representatives to express the need to protect and preserve the Maunawili lands and to seek both institutional and financial support toward that end; and

WHEREAS, Hui members have met with HRT Ltd. representatives and are now working in partnership with national and local trust entities that purchase and manage lands to identify ways to acquire HRT properties in Maunawili; and

WHEREAS, HRT Ltd. is the property holder for the Harry & Jeannette Weinberg Foundation, whose purpose is to address the needs of children, the poor, and the disadvantaged; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Weinberg Foundation aligns with Hui Maunawili-Kawainui's collective social conscience and stated responsibility to protect and preserve the natural and cultural resources of this region and the traditions associated with them, which are vital to the well-being of Hawai'i and its people;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs at its 58th Annual Convention in Seattle, Washington, in the malama of 'Ikuwā and the rising of Māhealani, this 4th day of November 2017, [INSERT THE TITLE (VERBATIM)]; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs supports the efforts of the Hui Maunawili-Kawainui to protect and conserve the Maunawili lands and urges HRT Ltd. to work with the Hui Maunawili-Kawainui toward the purchase of the HRT Maunawili lands to bring to fruition a larger, truly community-based vision of restoring Maunawili to its vital and traditional role in the ahupua'a as a source of free-flowing fresh water and place of abundant agriculture and rich cultural resources; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs urges the State and County to work with the Hui Maunawili-Kawainui in their efforts to acquire these important and rich agricultural, cultural, and historic lands; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to Senator Jill Tokuda, Senator Laura Thielen, Representative Chris Lee, Representative Ken Ito, Representative Cynthia Thielen, Chairperson Suzanne Case of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Chair of the Honolulu City Council, Honolulu City Councilmember Ikaika Anderson, as well as the Governor of the State of Hawai'i, President of the State Senate, Speaker of the State House of Representatives, Chair of the State Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs, Chair of the State House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, & Hawaiian Affairs, Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, all County Mayors.

[The official text of this resolution is being sent as testimony for SCR95 SD1 and SR55 SD1 by Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D., Hawaiian Civic Club of Honolulu and Ke One O Kakūhīhewa (O'ahu Council – Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs).]



HO'OKUA'ĀINA

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Testimony Supporting SCR95 and SR55

Senate Committee on Water and Land, and
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
Friday, March 23, 2018, 2:45PM, Conference Room 224

SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY, O'AHU, AND URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES TO ACQUIRE AND PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES AND TRAILS AND WATERS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY.

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Committee Members,

Ho'okua'āina is writing in strong support of the purchase, preservation and restoration of the 900+ privately-owned acres in Maunawili. Ho'okua'āina is a nonprofit organization located in Maunawili on 8 acres of land that has been restored back to a thriving lo'i kalo with 20 patches in full production. The organization uses the farm for a gathering place to build healthy community through mentoring, education and volunteer programs for all ages. The cultivation of kalo is our means to growing young people and community. We have been encouraged and inspired by the overwhelming interest in people from all walks of life wanting to be a part of connecting with the land, the growing of food and the social and spiritual fellowship that happens here.

Thousands of volunteers over the last 10 years have helped in the restoration and have expressed the desire to create more places like ours. The young people we are helping to mentor in our internship program are looking for opportunities to do similar work on their own. They understand the urgency for more spaces to be put back into food production and it is their desire to farm. There are many farmers amongst us with no land to farm. Maunawili was once known as the bread basket of the Ko'olau region providing sustenance for a thriving community. We believe it can return to that and become an inspiration for other communities throughout the state to do likewise. Dormant lands can once again become centers of life and provision for generations to come.

Mahalo nui for your support in preserving these vital lands in perpetuity,

Dean and Michele Wilhelm
Executive Co-Directors

SCR-95-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2018 6:08:58 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:20:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Annie Moriyasu	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Members, Please vote for this important measure.

Annie Moriyasu

Resident of Maunawili

1004 Lunaai Place, Kailua 96734

SCR-95-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2018 5:17:14 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:20:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Vanita Rae Smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Testimony Supporting **SCR95 SD1 and SR55 SD1 Relating to** Conserving the Maunawili forest and lo'i Senate Committee on Ways and Means Tuesday, April 3, 2018, 10:20AM, Conference Room 211

Supporting the purchase, preservation and restoration of agricultural and conservation lands in Maunawili Valley, O'ahu, and urging various federal, state, and county entities to acquire and protect important ancient and historic sites and trails and waters in Maunawili Valley.

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Committee Members:

1. strongly and whole heartily support the purchase and preservation and restoration of the Maunawili forest and lo'i. We the people want to purchase 900+ acres, including the Queen's Retreat, in order to protect the few beacons of life left on O'ahu for future generations. The valley is historically known as **KAHUAONALI** "the playground of Queens" and continues to reflect the playful spirit of the 1890s when and where Queen Liliuokalani wrote the haunting melody, "Aloha Oe". Will her song outlast her land?

I'm Vanita Rae Smith and have lived at 908 Maunawili Road (adjoining the Kawainui Marsh) since 1985. I walked the Olomana slopes (with my un-leashed dogs) and spread ashes of loved ones before the completion of the golf course, whose charter promised (1) to keep the marsh land mowed and maintained (which hasn't been done in years) and (2) NOT to develop other land holdings in the valley. The neighborhood lost the battle to stop the Japanese from building the golf course, but now we are faced with other challenges. We must protect and defend the National Wetlands at all costs and the Hawaiians final frontier.

1. a farm girl from the Ozark Mountains in Missouri, I loved the cattle grazing below my rim property in 1985. A wonderful cowboy took care of them. I watched him herd them home under the Pali Hwy during the storms when the water could get three feet deep (and it still does). He told me the story when a flash flood quickly drowned a small herd of sheep a couple of years before I moved here. I still cherish all the wildlife in my back yard.

1. girls passionately love the land as do the Hawaiians. We share that common bond. I love agriculture and culture (as an Army's Entertainment Director for 42 years) and Maunawili has both. We must save the rich top soil in Kawainui (back home we call it "bottomland" because low-lying land near a river is rich and subject to floods). Why protect and invest millions of dollars to save the North side of the Marsh and not save the South side? Is that not like stopping the HRT (Honolulu Rail Transit) half way?

I give my support to the efforts to acquire and safeguard these valuable agricultural lands and the National Wetlands for future generations.

Sincerely, Vanita Rae Smith 908 Maunawili Road Kailua, HI 96734 (808) 225-6927
vanitaraesmith@hawaii.rr.com

SCR-95-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2018 5:16:52 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:20:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Danielle Espiritu	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha mai kā• kou,

My name is Danielle Espiritu. I am 30 years old, grew up in Kā• ne'ōhe, Ko'olaupoko, O'ahu, and would like to support the purchase, preservation, and restoration of agricultural and conservation lands in Maunawili Valley, O'ahu, and to urge various Federal, State, and County entities to acquire and protect important and historic sites, trails and waters in Maunawili Valley.

I currently work with Ho'okua'Ā• ina in Kapalai as an education specialist. The concepts of "Iā• kahi" (balance, harmony) and "e ola pono" drive not only the work we do on the farm, but also the way I view and live my life. "Pono," while often interpreted as "righteousness" or doing what is right, is also completely tied to the idea of balance and harmonious relationship between people, akua and 'Ā• ina, our land and natural environment. We knew that in order to live sustainably and to have a healthy, thriving society, all of these components needed to be in line.

When I look at the reality of today, I see an imbalance. We import the majority of the food and resources we consume, and instead, convert lands that could be used to producing healthy food for our families into developments that are often inaccessible to actual community members. We pave over our soils, drastically reducing the amount of water going to replenish our aquifers, and we have become careless in the waste we produce.

In all honesty, I don't think we need more development. We need places of connection and of healing, and we need to provide families and communities the opportunity to access land. I know a number of young families who would jump at

the chance to restore 'Āina and to produce healthy food for their children and themselves, but simply cannot because they do not have land and cannot afford to purchase it. There is an increasing consciousness in this generation and a dissatisfaction in relying solely on foods that have been imported, potentially modified and filled with chemicals.

We want to know where our food comes from and to know that the food we feed our children is healthy. We want the connection to land, place and one another that comes from growing the food you eat with a community of individuals committed to the same ideals, and we want access to 'Āina and the ability to choose what is best for our families rather than being forced to settle simply because we cannot afford to make a land purchase.

Ultimately, I think many in our generation have vision for a thriving Hawai'i, and I mahalo you for your consideration of this testimony as a means of making this vision a reality.

Ke aloha nā ,

Danielle Espiritu

SCR-95-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2018 3:11:34 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:20:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Maya Saffery	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SCR95 SD1 & SR55 SD1**Relating to Conserving the Maunawili Forest and Lo'i**

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Tuesday, April 3, 2018, 10:20AM, Conference Room 211

SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY, O'AHU, AND URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES TO ACQUIRE AND PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES AND TRAILS AND WATERS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY.

Aloha e Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Committee Members,

I thank you for this opportunity to provide my testimony in strong support of **SCR95 SD1 & SR55 SD1**.

My name is Maya L. Kawaihanaokeawaiki Saffery. I was born and raised in the valley of Maunawili. As a Native Hawaiian of the ahupua'a of Kailua, a lifelong resident of Maunawili, a cultural practitioner of traditional hula who received my training and continues to practice my culture within Kailua, and a Hawaiian language curriculum developer from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa whose research focuses on the importance of place to the education of Hawai'i's children, I strongly support the purchase, preservation and restoration of the 900+ privately-owned acres in Maunawili, TMK No.s: (1)4-2-006:001, (1)4-2-006:008, (1)4-2-007:001, (1)4-2-008:001, (1)4-2-008:005, and (1)4-2-009:001.

I began studying traditional hula in 1989 at the age of nine when my mother signed me up for Hāloa Māhala 'Ilima based in Ka'aha, Kailua, Ko'olaupoko, O'ahu. I learn

hula, chants, and songs that honor our gods, our royalty, our sacred places, and our histories. The words I continue to give voice to and the motions I continue to give life to are the same words and motions that my hula ancestors practiced for generations and that I continue to perpetuate into the future. We are taught in our hā• lau that researching the many-layered meanings of our mele and hula and then presenting them on the land for the purpose of honoring the place and remembering the people and events connected to that place are all part of what is required when you accept the kuleana (responsibility) to practice traditional hula. I take this kuleana very seriously. The purchase, preservation, and restoration of these parcels of land in Maunawili will allow hula practitioners of Kailua like myself to fulfill this kuleana because it provides for the restoration and revitalization of cultural and natural resources related to our wahi pana (sacred sites). This important work will in turn provide better opportunities for us to live our culture in relation to these wahi pana from the back of Maunawili where Lili'uokalani was once hosted by our community over a century ago, to the many heiau and ancient agricultural complexes that still exist throughout the valley, to the mouth of the valley where a network of streams feed into Kawainui fishpond that once fed the communities of Kailua, Waimā• nalo, and Kā• ne'ohe.

As a Hawaiian language curriculum developer from the University of Hawai'i at Mā• noa, I strive to engage students in culturally grounded curricula and pedagogies that honor and nurture the kanaka-‘Ā• ina (person-land) relationship. Not only do I believe that this approach is essential for the education of Hawaiian students, but ‘Ā• ina-based/conscious education can also benefit all students. By grounding our curriculum and pedagogy in the study of place, we are able to offer our students learning experiences that connect to where they come from, who they are, and how they see the world. Students develop deeper relationships with the places they call home, thus motivating them to become more actively engaged in the protection and stewardship of their own environments and the empowerment of their own communities. I am excited about upcoming opportunities for educators like myself, especially those from Kailua, to develop curriculum about Kailua for Kailua's children who will benefit greatly from engaging directly with the sites that will be preserved, restored, managed, and cared for through the purchase of these extremely valuable agricultural, cultural, and historical lands of Maunawili.

Finally, I am a Native Hawaiian of Kailua who has been raised by these lands of Maunawili for my entire life and continues to make my home in the protective embrace of the Ko'olau mountains. The oral histories of my ancestors from four and five centuries past further corroborated by written accounts in primary source materials describe Kailua, and specifically the rich agricultural lands of Maunawili, as a nexus of cultural excellence in our islands as well as a bountiful, calabash-like land division able to support a large population. The bounty of natural and cultural resources cared for and cultivated by the people of Kailua not only fed their community but also attracted Hawaiian royalty throughout the centuries, from the high-ranking chief Kā• kuhihewa, who made Kailua one of his permanent residences and seats of political power for the entire island of O'ahu in the fifteenth century to Queen Lili'uokalani, who was regularly hosted by the natives of Kailua at magnificent feasts and celebrations in the nineteenth

century. A strong, enduring relationship between our people, their places, and their cultural practices created a strong, thriving community in Kailua who had the knowledge and skills to produce and maintain the resources needed to grow and support their families over the generations. It is my strong belief that the purchase, preservation, and restoration of these 900+ acres in Maunawili will allow for the re-establishment of a piko (center) of stewardship and learning in Kailua where our community can once again gather to study, teach, and promote land-based Hawaiian cultural knowledge and practices for the purposes of feeding and growing healthy, balanced, and abundant lands and people for generations to come.

For all these reasons, I strongly urge you to support **SCR95 SD1 & SR55 SD1**

Mahalo nui,

Maya Saffery

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Kailua, HI 96734

mayakawailana@gmail.com

Re: SCR95, SR55, HCR152, HR133 - Conserving the Maunawili forest and lo'i.
SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF
AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY, O'AHU, AND
URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES TO ACQUIRE AND
PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES AND TRAILS AND WATERS IN
MAUNAWILI VALLEY.

Aloha Kakou,

I strongly support the purchase, preservation and restoration of the 900+ privately-owned acres in Maunawili, TMK No.s: (1)4-2-006:001, (1)4-2-006:008, (1)4-2-007:001, (1)4-2-008:001, (1)4-2-008:005, and (1)4-2-009:001.

As a Native Hawaiian, born and bred on O`ahu, I feel it is important to protect these lands because:

- 1) they contain numerous cultural sites important to Hawaii's history, including "Queen's Retreat" where Lili'uokalani took respite and wrote the song "Aloha 'Oe", heiau, petroglyphs, and ancient agricultural terraces; and
- 2) they are home to native and endangered species, including three endangered Hawaiian damselflies, the Hawaiian Hoary Bat, O'ahu 'Elepaio, and many native plants such as 'Akoko, 'Ohe'ohe, Alani, and Haha.

As a former educator for more than 30 years, I've witnessed how bringing the youth onto the land to teach its history and mo'olelo is very powerful and often more effective than any classroom lesson can provide. For many, connecting with the land can be life-changing and life-giving.

For example, the lands include almost all of Kailua's Hanalei soil – the richest and most fertile soil in Hawai'i. Promoting programs that teach people to grow kalo and other healthy food crops on these lands will significantly increase Hawaii's local food production, moving us that much closer to adopting a healthy, sustainable lifestyle.

Please allow the land to resume its vital traditional role in the Kailua ahupua'a as a place of free-flowing fresh water, abundant agriculture, and protected cultural sites cared for by the community.

Me ka ha`aha`a,

Sharlene Chun-Lum

Testimony Supporting SCR95 SD1 and SR55 SD1
Relating to Conserving the Maunawili forest and lo'i
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Tuesday, April 3, 2018, 10:20AM, Conference Room 211

SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF
AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY,
O'AHU, AND URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES
TO ACQUIRE AND PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES
AND TRAILS AND WATERS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY.

Testimony in Support submitted by: Beth Anderson

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Committee Members,

I strongly urge you to support the purchase, preservation, restoration, and protection of agricultural and conservation lands and ancient historical sites in Maunawili Valley, O'ahu. I have been a Kailua resident for forty years and actively involved in organizations working toward the restoration and preservation of the wetlands, ancient historical sites, and the practice of Hawaiian culture within the Kailua ahupua'a. Some members of the Kailua Hawaiian organizations I am part of have been working decades to achieve these goals.

We are environmentalists, scientists, educators, cultural practitioners, farmers, and scholars, and many of us have other jobs and occupations, but we devote hundreds of volunteer hours each year toward restoring and preserving the wetlands of Kailua and the cultural sites in these areas because we view this work as incredibly important and valuable for the future of this ahupua'a and Hawai'i residents.

Restoring and conserving watersheds, green space, and creating and supporting more sustainable agriculture should be a priority now on O'ahu. So much has been lost that is irreplaceable. Precious agriculture areas on the Ewa plain and in Central O'ahu are being developed and lost forever. This is unwise and unsustainable. Hanalei soil, the richest and most fertile soil in Hawai'i, the most productive kalo growing soil in Hawai'i, is found in Maunawili. The state should be focused on significantly increasing and supporting local food production. Instead of filling in this wetland with houses, roads, and invasives, kalo and other food crops can be grown here once again in effort to move toward the goal of food sustainability. Historically, Maunawili was a "breadbasket" for O'ahu, as evidenced by many irrigated and dryland agricultural terraces, large 'auwai related to extensive lo'i, and historic maps and documents.

Maunawili Wetlands are such a critical piece of the Kailua watershed that I think most of us are frankly appalled at the thought of developing and building homes in these wetlands. The state

should have never allowed these wetlands to be purchased by a commercial landowner in the first place. These wetlands and the archaeological sites within them have been neglected for decades by the current landowner. I am gravely concerned about areas like Queen's Retreat which has been left to deteriorate to a dismal state and may not survive if left to continued neglect. The historical main house, the Hedemann house, is barely standing. The old carriageway to the houses that was lined with Royal Palms is overgrown and the palms are choked by invasive plants and dying off. Other historical structures at Queen's Retreat have completely disappeared because of neglect. Some were demolished because they had completely deteriorated and were beyond repair. Queen's Retreat should be restored and preserved because it is an important part of Hawai'i history. The archeological sites there, such as Queen's Bath, and ancient heiau in the area are in need of attention and extensive restoration.

In addition to saving precious archaeological sites, there are a multitude of reasons the wetlands and ancient historical sites and trails of Maunawili should be purchased by the state and protected, preserved, and cared for. Maunawili lands include a network of streams which flow through Maunawili wetlands and feed Kawainui Marsh. It is all connected and much healing needs to take place in these areas. The health of Kawainui, which is severely degraded presently, is dependent on the health of the mauka Maunawili lands. I am part of several organizations working to restore the health of Kawainui Marsh and the waters of the entire Kailua ahupua'a. We are aware that the biosystem created by the growing of lo'i, reconstruction of ancient fishponds, removal of invasive plants, and implementation of other ancient Hawaiian agricultural engineering techniques, works to clean polluted waters within that system. These techniques mirror modern eco-engineering models for treating polluted waterways. Cleansing the waterways of Maunawili and Kawainui will result in healthier waters entering Kailua Bay, also.

Our organizations are working to remove invasive species at Kawainui, restoring lo'i gardens, and restoring and teaching about this ecosystem and the ancient Hawaiian culture that lived and thrived there. We know the key to getting kids (and adults) to value and take care of these precious areas is to take them there to experience them, to have them learn about and value the Hawaiian culture in their community of Kailua, and teach them modern science and technology there as well. I want my grandchildren to gain this knowledge and help care for our fragile natural resources and important cultural history. The wetlands, the trails, the ancient sites of Maunawili and Kawainui are incredibly important resources—wells of knowledge, spirituality, culture, healing and beauty reside there. We must protect this for our generation and the thousands of generations to follow and resolve to do this.

Aloha 'Aina 'Ola'i'o,

Beth Anderson, Founding member, Hui Maunawili Kawainui

234 Pauahilani Pl.

Kailua, HI 96734

**Testimony Supporting SCR95 SD1 and SR55 SD1
Relating to Conserving the Maunawili Forest and Lo'i**

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Tuesday, April 3, 2018, 10:20AM, Conference Room 211

SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY, O'AHU, AND URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES TO ACQUIRE AND PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES AND TRAILS AND WATERS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY.

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Committee Members,

I strongly support the purchase, preservation and restoration of the 900+ privately-owned acres in Maunawili, TMK No: (1)4-2-006:001, (1)4-2-006:008, (1)4-2-007:001, (1)4-2-008:001, (1)4-2-008:005, and (1)4-2-009:001.

Maunawili has always been close to my heart. My family moved to the valley in 1959, when I was in second grade, so for most of my childhood I grew up there, living in a house on the original Maunawili Road (now Maunawili Loop). When my siblings and I were young, we spent endless hours and days playing down by the stream or freely exploring around the valley. My mom continued to live there for the rest of her life, and my sister and her family now live in our old family home, so I have made frequent trips to the valley for as long as I can remember.

I feel very strongly about the importance of preserving the still-undeveloped lands in Maunawili. Obviously for me the valley has intense personal importance, but I feel its preservation is essential for the entire community as well, for the following main reasons:

- To preserve what is left of the rural character of Windward Oahu.
- To protect the flow of fresh water from Maunawili Valley down to Kawainui marsh, which will maintain the ecological health of the entire area and protect the wildlife that lives there.
- To use the rich soils of Maunawili for agricultural purposes as much as possible, especially because food security in Hawaii is so tenuous due to the lack of adequate local food production.
- To protect numerous historical cultural sites in the valley, including Lili'uokalani's "Queen's Retreat" and also heiau, petroglyphs, and ancient agricultural terraces.
- To provide opportunities to solve the problematic issues surrounding access to and use of Maunawili Falls Trail and Olomana Trail.

I am extremely encouraged that there are ongoing discussions among various government and community parties to put together a plan for a voluntary conservation sale of these Maunawili lands from the current landowner, which will ensure that they are preserved for the future of our community. It would be a disaster if those precious lands were allowed to be sold for sham agricultural "gentlemen's estates" for wealthy homeowners who have no real intention to use the lands for genuine agricultural use. I ask you to please support the efforts to purchase, preserve, and restore these agricultural and conservation lands.

Mahalo for your attention.

Marcia Kemble

Marcia Kemble
2055 Makiki St.
Honolulu, HI 96822
(h) 941-6453

Testimony Supporting SCR95 SD1 and SR55 SD1
Relating to Conserving the Maunawili forest and lo‘i
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Tuesday, April 3, 2018, 10:20AM, Conference Room 211

SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF
AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY, O‘AHU,
AND URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES TO ACQUIRE
AND PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES AND TRAILS AND
WATERS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY.

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Committee Members,

Our family, fourth generation residents of Kailua, strongly supports the purchase, preservation and restoration of the 900+ privately-owned acres in Maunawili, TMK No.s: (1)4-2-006:001, (1)4-2-006:008, (1)4-2-007:001, (1)4-2-008:001, (1)4-2-008:005, and (1)4-2-009:001.

Our grandfather/great-grandfather moved his family to Kailua in 1929 to work at the Maunawili Training School for Girls at Kawailoa, the site of today’s O‘ahu Youth Correction Facility. One of his jobs was to oversee the maintenance of the water systems that delivered Maunawili’s abundant water to Waimanalo plantations and the Maunawili Training School. He introduced us – by jeep and on foot -- to this exceptionally bountiful place – Maunawili – with its streams, freshwater springs, rice fields tilled by water buffalo, a poi factory, small farms and nurseries all sustained by free-flowing water and exceptionally fertile soil. Our family moved to Maunawili in 1951 and still lives bordering TMK 42007001, part of the historic Maunawili wetlands that are largely comprised of Hanalei Series Soil – the most fertile soil in the islands. The elders in our family vividly remember the Maunawili that was still productive agricultural land. Nearly all of this was lost in the early 1960s with the first residential subdivisions, the diversion of streams and eventually the eviction of farmers by new landowners.

We are concerned by the landowner’s applications to the City to subdivide five parcels and nearly 1,000 acres into agricultural subdivisions; and greatly encouraged by their willingness to work with The Trust for Public Land on a Letter of Intent to effect a conservation purchase of their Maunawili lands. Maunawili’s many resources – which are outlined so eloquently in this resolution -- are too important to squander on fake farms and gentleman’s estates, which sadly is the fate of agricultural subdivisions in Hawai‘i. We have all seen it.

This is a rare moment – a very important opportunity to reclaim and care for land that rightfully belongs in the public domain. The Trust for Public Land, DLNR, the Department of Agriculture and community groups throughout Kailua are working together to acquire, protect and restore Maunawili’s waterways, wetlands, forests, endangered species, important agricultural lands, lo‘i kalo and many cultural and historic sites, roads and trails. The natural and cultural resources and

the traditions associated with them are vital to the well-being of the ahupua‘a of Kailua, of Hawai‘i and its people.

We look forward to continuing to work with The Trust for Public Land to seek funding for this purchase. We urge this Committee to pass SCR 95 and SR55. Mahalo for your consideration.

Deborah Pope
426 ‘Ili‘aina Street
Kailua 96734

Barbara Pope
1022 Maunawili Loop
Kailua 96734

Fabrizio Medosi
1022 Maunawili Loop
Kailua 96734

Todd Coffey
1821 Iwi Way
Honolulu 96816

John Foster
1499 Akeke Place
Kailua 96734

William Foster
968 Maunawili Road
Kailua 96734

Greer Price
968 Maunawili Road
Kailua 96734

SCR-95-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2018 6:42:36 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:20:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Manulani Aluli Meyer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**Testimony Supporting SCR95 SD1 and SR55 SD1
Relating to Conserving the Maunawili forest and lo'i**

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Tuesday, April 3, 2018, 10:20AM, Conference Room 211

SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY, O'AHU, AND URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES TO ACQUIRE AND PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES AND TRAILS AND WATERS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY.

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Committee Members,

I, Dr. Manulani Aluli Meyer, along with my sisters Meleanna, Maile, Moana and Luana; and our Aluli cousins strongly support the purchase, preservation and restoration of the 900+ privately-owned acres in Maunawili, TMK No.s: (1)4-2-006:001, (1)4-2-006:008, (1)4-2-007:001, (1)4-2-008:001, (1)4-2-008:005, and (1)4-2-009:001.

We have grown up in and around Kailua, Mokapu, and Maunawili since the 1950's and believe these lands will play a vital role in the cultural revitalization of our people. I am also an advocate for the Food Security movement, something that Maunawili aina can help with. I also strongly advocate for cultural solutions for our incarcerated women and youth at the Ko'olau Correctional Facilities. This rich and fertile lands are key to this movement.

We also understand the rich cultural history of these lands and wish to lend our support to the brilliant ideas the following nine bullets summarize:

- To protect numerous cultural sites important to Hawai'i's history, including "Queen's Retreat" where Lili'uokalani took respite and wrote the song "Aloha 'Oe", heiau, petroglyphs, and ancient agricultural terraces.
- To be able to bring the youth onto the land to teach its history and mo'olelo.

- The lands include almost all of Kailua's Hanalei soil – the richest and most fertile soil in Hawai'i – and can once again grow kalo and other healthy food crops that can significantly increase Hawai'i's local food production.
- To help the communities of Ko'olaupoko and Ko'olauloa preserve Windward O'ahu's rural/local/country character
- The lands include a network of streams that feed Kawainui marsh, so the health of Kawainui is dependent on the health of the mauka Maunawili lands. Together with Kawainui marsh, the lands constitute the most intact traditional landscape in the Kailua ahupua'a.
- To support the Ko'olau community's belief that the health and vitality of the land, its ecosystems, and the cultural traditions associated with them are essential to the well-being of the community.
- To allow the land to resume its vital traditional role in the Kailua ahupua'a as a place of free-flowing fresh water, abundant agriculture, and protected cultural sites cared for by the community.
- To protect and improve the natural habitat for native and endangered species in the area, including three endangered Hawaiian damselflies, the Hawaiian Hoary Bat, O'ahu 'Elepaio, and many native plants such as 'Akoko, 'Ohe'ohe, Alani, and Haha.
- To solve the public access issues associated with use of Maunawili Trail and Olomana Trail, and relieve the burden on the Maunawili neighborhood.

Our ohana envisions a healthy and rejuvenated landscape, filled with food and people willing to learn, exchange and share. The possibilities are truly infinite if given the chance. As an Educator, I see massive potential in these sites as Place-Based spaces of learning. Please, allow this to grow into something powerful and productive, and inspiring for others. We can do something unique here, and help our Hawaii heal and respond more appropriately to the climate change that is upon us.

Me ka oia i'o,
Dr. Manulani Aluli Meyer

University of Hawaii West Oahu

SCR-95-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2018 8:43:29 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:20:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Daniela Minerbi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SCR-95-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2018 9:04:04 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:20:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Kemble	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Committee Members,

I would like to offer testimony in support of the purchase, preservation and restoration of the privately-owned land in the heart of Maunawili to ensure that the vitality of this special valley will be passed down for the benefit of future generations. I was blessed to grow up in Maunawili in the late 1950s and 1960s, and although I now live makai (near Kailua Beach Park), I carry in my heart a deep and abiding love for Maunawili. Geologically, the valley occupies what was once the center of the Ko'olau caldera. In pre-contact time, it was one of the richest, most productive regions of the entire island of O'ahu. As such, I have always seen it as a "cradle" at the heart of the island that deserves special respect and protection. With its abundant waters and rich soil, it is a natural resource that needs to be nourished to ensure the long-term vitality and ecological integrity of the greater Kailua ahupua'a. There is now a unique opportunity to step forward to protect the valley while the essential qualities that make it so special are still intact. Please act now to take advantage of this special opportunity by supporting SCR95 SDI and SR55 SDI.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this issue.

Mahalo,
David Kemble
219 Kakahiaka St.
Kailua, HI 96734
(former resident of 1042 Maunawili Loop)

SCR-95-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2018 9:43:35 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:20:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Zachary Pilien	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This area is a prime agricultural growing zone and it would be wasteful and foolish to throw that away through suburban development. Hawaii needs to increase its food production to better provide for our people. If we are to reach our sustainability goals, provide jobs and opportunities for those interested in agriculture, and manage our land resources effectively, we need to protect the land from the ever pervasive forces of development. There is growing interest in sustainability and agriculture amongst young people such as myself. Please provide us with opportunities and a healthy 'aina for generations to come.

Mahalo

SCR-95-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2018 9:50:16 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:20:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Katherine James	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Testimony Supporting SCR95 SD1 and SR55 SD1**Relating to Conserving the Maunawili forest and lo'i**

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Tuesday, April 3, 2018, 10:20AM, Conference Room 211

SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY, O'AHU, AND URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES TO ACQUIRE AND PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES AND TRAILS AND WATERS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY.

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Committee Members:

We have lived in Maunawili Valley since 1987 and love the country feel of the area. Everyone here takes good care of their property and seems to feel a great connection to the neighborhood. We would not like to see the valley get over developed or commercial or overcrowded.

We would especially not want the valley to loose it's connection to the past rooted in farming as well as natural generation of water for the marsh and food grown in excellent fertile soil. This area was historically very important to the Hawaiians for many reasons and I have read of many historical events that took place here. It would be a shame to pave over all of this history.

I have personally been to the Queens Retreat while shooting a film in the back of the valley. This area should be restored and preserved.

One of the worst things that has happened recently is the huge increase in the number of trail users, without any one taking responsibility for the maintenance. People leave their trash and muddy clothing and there are no facilities or even proper parking.

Property owners are suffering greatly because of carelessness on the part of hikers. Just count the number of houses that have sold on Aloha Oe Drive, where the problem is the worst. I get reports from Locations Hi and it seems that street has the highest turnover.

When we bought our home we did not know of the rich history of Maunawili and have learned over time how fortunate we are to live in such a historical ahupuaa. It is wonderful that these farming and historical lands still exist in the old way. We must try to save this area before it is too late. Please help.

Kathe James

808 265-3246

SCR-95-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2018 10:14:44 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:20:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wendy Roberts	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Committee Members:

Thank you in advance for listening to our thoughts on this conservation plan. On the island of Oahu, we are living on a small yet bustling island where every parcel of land is precious. We need to use our land carefully. Honolulu stretches across most of the south, and suburbs cut into a large portion of what is left. Kailua and Kaneohe have become quite robust towns. It is not like the North Shore where the rural feel is more common. We struggle to keep our open spaces: agricultural lands, watershed, parks, and conservation lands against the interests of development.

Our green spaces have value that is harder to see at first glance. Since real estate is so expensive, it is tempting to develop each parcel into housing, but without the green spaces distributed intelligently within easy distance of every house, our housing becomes worth much less. Residents pay a premium to live on the windward side because of the breathtaking scenery in the remaining wild spaces. Our undeveloped lands give us the way of life that we value. It brings in tourism dollars as well, which are less tangible than those of housing development, but a good value to keep in mind. Without the green spaces, our endangered animals lose habitat as well. It's hard to keep our eyes on the quality of life and the indirect income generated from our beautiful open spaces, but we need have reached a point where there are highly limited wild spaces in the Kailua area. We need places for our keiki to learn to love the land.

If Maunawili is zoned into agricultural parcels, no one can predict if it will be a successful nursery, a thriving farm, or a lawn for a mansion. Norfolk was a similar situation. This is the neighborhood directly on the other side of Olamana mountain, where home owners who promised to perform agriculture on their acres of land instead converted farms into mansions with arable acres turned into lawn instead of the food we were promised. This situation is likely to repeat in Maunawili. I think the only way we can reliably use the land in the best interest of the surrounding areas is to turn it into government land for community use like Ulupo Heiau, or for watershed like the lands that are adjacent. Retaining the land in Maunawili is very important for the quality of life for all of Oahu, but especially those in Kailua and Honolulu. Please know that our family is in favor of the purchase.

Thank you!

Wendy Roberts

Jeremy Roberts

Sora Roberts

Elysia Roberts

SCR-95-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 4:52:59 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:20:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
paul brennan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support the passage of this bill because it allows our community the only opportunity to preserve this historic parcel. No other acreage on the Windward side is so rich in cultural significance and agricultural potential. Preservation and restoration, rather than development, are vital to our future wellbeing, and will allow unparalleled educational opportunities.

Paul Brennan, Ph.D.

President, Kailua Historical Society

**Testimony Supporting SCR95 SD1 and SR55 SD1
Relating to Conserving the Maunawili forest and lo'i**

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Tuesday, April 3, 2018, 10:20AM, Conference Room 211

SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION , AND RESTORATION OF
AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY, O'AHU,
AND URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES TO ACQUIRE
AND PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES AND TRAIL AND
WATERS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Committee Members,

I Strongly support the purchase, preservation and restoration of the 900+ privately-owned acres in Maunawili, TMK No.s: (1)4-2-006:001, (1)4-2-006:008, (1)4-2-007:001 (1)4-2-008:001, (1)4-2-008:005 and (1)4-2-009:001.

Aloha My name Is Ethan McArdle. I am from the Big island and am currently a student at Windward community college. I am 21 years old and I am Kalo farmer. My personal connection to kailua and the windward side of Oahu extends back to my grandparents. Both my father and my mother's parents lived in Kailua for over 60 years and this is where my parents grew up. I have always had a personal connection to this place but it was until two years ago when I started farming loi kalo in Maunawili that I really started to connect with this place. To me Maunawili is sacred and I have experienced that sanctity first hand and there are others like me who know how special this place really is. I hope that whoever reads this also realizes how sacred maunawili is.

It is important to protect and cultivate Maunawili specifically because of how sacred it is and because the Aina is like no other. Maunawili is home to the richest most fertile soil in Hawaii and by protecting these lands, by stopping development and encouraging the land to be used for agriculture, you are enabling farmers like my self to move into these lands and start cultivating it. Farmers will be able to begin to feed not just kailua but the whole state. Hawaii is one the most costly places in the world and living here isn't easy for young people. Most people my age are living at home or with family members because it is almost impossible to afford housing. So how would I ever be able to afford to own land? Or to even have access to land that I can cultivate? Land is valued so highly that Farmers cannot afford land to grow food here. I will consider myself lucky if one day I am able to own land in Hawaii and use it to grow food. This is an issue that needs to be addressed and it is vital that we protect Maunawili and other agg lands across the state. Oahu is already developed enough. We have enough housing developments and we have enough people crammed onto this small island. However we aren't growing enough food.

Hawaii is so dependent on importing everything we need but this is not a sustainable practice. We need to be able to feed our own people and take care of this beautiful place we all call home. This is something I feel very deeply about and I hope that come tuesday you feel the same way.

My vision for these land and all of Hawaii is that we have a place where farmers have the access to land that is so desperately needed to grow food. I see a place that is feeding not just kailua but also Oahu and all of Hawaii. I see a place where the younger generation is inspired to continue to do this all over the state. I see a thriving valley full of food and I see thriving community working hard every day to protect this place we all belong to Farming is a powerful thing that is about something much bigger than yourself, something that is actually important and something that is sadly underappreciated and undervalued. Yet it is something worthwhile, something noble and something beautiful. Farmers don't think about themselves because farming is not about yourself. It is about community and it is about caring for the land It is about loving the people who you feed and the land where you plant. Farmers are constantly giving and I pray that you have it in your heart to take the farmers side because in doing so you are giving to the community . Aloha Aina or love the land, because Aina Aloha, the land loves us.

Mahalo,
Ethan McArdle

ethanmm@hawaii.edu

SCR-95-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 9:26:27 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:20:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Maddy Memering	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SCR-95-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 9:39:43 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:20:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Maya Martinez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Personally, I have experienced the amazing forest in this area. My school and my after school club, the Wild Kids participate in frequent Lo'i workdays in this area. It would be a shame if this land we're to not be preserved and I ask for the sake of the children and people of Hawaii to who will come after me that we preserve this land.

SCR-95-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 9:40:11 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:20:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Riley	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I, Riley, strongly support the preservation and restoration of the 900+ privately owned acres in Maunawili. A classmate and close friend of mine lives on some of this land with her family. They own a loi, which works to help kids all over the island. It provides food for many and is a livelihood for some families. This loi helps some people fidn themselves and become better people. It is also a major culutural site. Personally, I have worked at the loi 5 times. It is not only very helpful, but super fun. The loi also helps endangered species.

Mahalo,

Riley

SCR-95-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 9:42:08 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:20:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mahie Wilhelm	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Testimony Supporting SCR95 SD1 and SR55 SD1**Relating to Conserving the Maunawili forest and lo'i****Senate Committee on Ways and Means****Tuesday, April 3, 2018, 10:20AM, Conference Room 211**

SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY, O'AHU, AND URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES TO ACQUIRE AND PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES AND TRAILS AND WATERS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY.

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Committee Members,

My name is Mahie Wilhelm and I am a senior at Le Jardin Academy. I am resident of Maunawili, Kailua, O'ahu, valley and have grown up immersed in the land and culture that thrives in my neighborhood. I, Mahie Wilhelm, strongly support the purchase, preservation, and restoration of the 900+ privately owned acres in Maunawili, TMK No.s: (1)4-2-006:001, (1)4-2-006:008, (1)4-2-007:001, (1)4-2-008:001, (1)4-2-008:005, (1)4-2-009:001. I have worked the land of Maunawili, grown produce and provided food for my community, and have seen the lives that have been touched by cultural and land revitalization. I understand the importance of cultural and land preservation as it is vital for the health and wellbeing of my community, but more importantly for future generations to come.

My family, who owns 7 acres of Lo'i land in Maunawili, envision the rich agricultural lands of Maunawili to once again be used to nourish our community, teach youth about their cultural heritage, and build strong and meaningful relationships with one another through working the land.

Thank you for your consideration of this important issue.

Mahalo nui loa,

Mahie Wilhelm

connor.wilhelm@lejardinacademy.org

(808) 202-0622

SCR-95-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 9:40:21 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:20:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Owen Pyle	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SCR-95-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 9:48:15 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:20:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christian Robbins	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please preserve and protect this sacred land.

Mahalo

SCR-95-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 9:49:02 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:20:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Malialani Kanaiaupuni	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Committee Members,

My name is Malia Kana'iaupuni and I am a senior at Le Jardin Academy. I am resident of Kailua, O'ahu, and have grown up immersed in the land and culture that thrives in my neighborhood. I, Malialani Kana'iaupuni, strongly support the purchase, preservation, and restoration of the 900+ privately owned acres in Maunawili, TMK No.s: (1)4-2-006:001, (1)4-2-006:008, (1)4-2-007:001, (1)4-2-008:001, (1)4-2-008:005, (1)4-2-009:001.

I have worked the land of Maunawili, grown produce and provided food for my community, and have seen the lives that have been touched by cultural and land revitalization. I understand the importance of cultural and land preservation as it is vital for the health and well-being of my community, but more importantly for future generations to come.

Thank you for your consideration of this important issue.

Mahalo nui loa,

Malialani Kana'iaupuni

SCR-95-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 9:50:44 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:20:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kennedy-Anne Marx	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Kennedy. I live in Kailua and am 17 years old. I work in a loi alot in Maunawili, and it is very beautiful and amazing land. Please protect it and make sure it doesnt get turned into concrete. I want to be able to have my family and children one day be able to see the land like I got too. Without structured surfaces everywhere. It is important to keep the land in the hands of community members who are sustainable rather than develepors greedy for money.

Please make the sustainable choice for my future and my friends futures.

-kennedy

SCR-95-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 10:00:05 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:20:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
mele beter	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Testimony Supporting SCR95 SD1 and SR55 SD1

Relating to Conserving the Maunawili forest and lo'i

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Tuesday, April 3, 2018, 10:20AM, Conference Room 211

SUPPORTING THE PURCHASE, PRESERVATION, AND RESTORATION OF AGRICULTURAL AND CONSERVATION LANDS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY, O'AHU, AND URGING VARIOUS FEDERAL, STATE, AND COUNTY ENTITIES TO ACQUIRE AND PROTECT IMPORTANT ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES AND TRAILS AND WATERS IN MAUNAWILI VALLEY.

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Committee Members,

I Mele Beter & family of Maunawili, Kailua, strongly support the purchase, preservation and restoration of the 900+ privately-owned acres in Maunawili, TMK No.s: (1)4-2-006:001, (1)4-2-006:008, (1)4-2-007:001, (1)4-2-008:001, (1)4-2-008:005, and (1)4-2-009:001.

My 'Ohana has been in Kailua for many generations. We are residents of Maunawili and have tried to continue to be stewards of this beautiful place! As a kanaka Maoli (Hawaiian) and as a steward of this wahi pana, these sacred lands of Maunawili, Kailua,

I realize the incredible uniqueness and importance that Maunawili holds for our community.

These lands hold some of the most precious history, stories of our ancestors of our Ali'i, a historical breadbasket of resources that once fed thousands. Today there are ancient Lo'i (taro farms) that have been revived and are once again feeding, educating, and healing our community.

As a Hawaiian practitioner of la'au lapa'au and lomilomi (medicinal plant healing, and body work) I have spent years planting and harvesting native plants and medicinal plants for our community right here in Maunawili. When you spend that time on the land you begin to understand how truly unique and blessed we are still have this opportunity, to still steward these lands! Our soil is so rich and natural resources still abundant.

Why is it important to me that the lands of Maunawili be protected?

We have all seen how quickly the development of kailua has tragically devastated kailua town. Commercial real estate throughout kailua has continued to increased so rapidly, and monopolizing and designating the local market. Local businesses and families can't afford to compete with foreign businesses and people moving into our community. It is truly devastating to see the impact of these rapid changes on both the people and the land. So many local business have closed their doors, and families that have been here for generations are forced to leave. Not only has this development put our people at risk, but it has also put natural resources and natural habitats in danger. What I believe we need to look at are the following points:

- To protect numerous cultural sites important to Hawai'i's history, including "Queen's Retreat" where Lili'uokalani took respite and wrote the song "Aloha 'Oe", heiau, petroglyphs, and ancient agricultural terraces.
- To be able to bring the youth onto the land to teach its history and mo'olelo.
- The lands include almost all of Kailua's Hanalei soil – the richest and most fertile soil in Hawai'i – and can once again grow kalo and other healthy food crops that can significantly increase Hawai'i's local food production.

- To help the communities of Ko'olaupoko and Ko'olauloa preserve Windward O'ahu's rural/local/country character
- The lands include a network of streams that feed Kawainui marsh, so the health of Kawainui is dependent on the health of the mauka Maunawili lands. Together with Kawainui marsh, the lands constitute the most intact traditional landscape in the Kailua ahupua'a.
- To support the Ko'olau community's belief that the health and vitality of the land, its ecosystems, and the cultural traditions associated with them are essential to the well-being of the community.
- To allow the land to resume its vital traditional role in the Kailua ahupua'a as a place of free-flowing fresh water, abundant agriculture, and protected cultural sites cared for by the community.
- To protect and improve the natural habitat for native and endangered species in the area, including three endangered Hawaiian damselflies, the Hawaiian Hoary Bat, O'ahu 'Elepaio, and many native plants such as 'Akoko, 'Ohe'ohe, Alani, and Haha.
- To solve the public access issues associated with use of Maunawili Trail and Olomana Trail, and relieve the burden on the Maunawili neighborhood.

My families vision of this land is to see more Taro farms being revived and created, and more historical and cultural sites be restored and cared for. We see this place has the potential to be a leading example for our island of 'Oahu. We still are surrounded by so much country beauty, and ancient sites but what does the future of this place hold? If it's put into the right hands, we see a focus on cultural education, agricultural growth, a place where Hawaiian practitioners can practice and thrive. I would love to see a healing center for training la'au, Lomilomi, ho'oponopono practitioners and provided these services for our community. Konahuanui is the highest point of the Ko'olau mountain range. She gracefully sits like a tutu (grandmother) above Maunawili, looking over all of her children. I stare at this mauna ever day of my life. I know that this place is protected for significant reason. I pray as we all move forward we will all sit and truly meditate on the future health of this sacred place! And the impact our decision will have for generations to come.

Mahalo,

Mele & Ka'eo Beter

(808)673-9953

Email: meleokalani@gmail.com

SCR-95-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/2/2018 10:08:44 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/3/2018 10:20:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Arianna Lunow-Luke	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha my name is Arianna and I am a senior at Le Jardin Academy. One of my closest friends and her family lives in Maunawili Valley. Some of the greatest memories I have are from the time we've spent together outside in their lo'i patch, giving back to the land. I believe that we should protect and preserve the land and the history that comes with it in Maunawili not only because of the beauty and resources that the area provides, but because of the memories and experiences that I have had there growing up. I want future generations to be able to have fun in the lo'i and understand the value of being outside. Having grown up on the Windward side of the island, I can say that we have the benefit of engaging in a less urbanized environment with exposure to nature and wildlife. Although I don't personally live in Maunawili, I still consider it an essential aspect of my home on this island. Thank you for your consideration on this bill and I hope that you choose to protect the area that I love.