Submitted on: 3/8/2019 5:10:01 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/11/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michele McLean	Testifying for County of Maui / KIRC	Support	No

### Comments:

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Committee members,

Please accept this testimony in strong support of HB454 HD1 to provide additional funding for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission for native dryland forest restoration. The Legislature has been a great partner to the KIRC in recent years, and this additional -- and targeted -- bridge funding is needed to continue the KIRC's restoration efforts while the KIRC works to implement its financial sustainability plan. We could not have come this far without your support, and hope to earn continued support this session.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Michele McLean, AICP

Planning Director, County of Maui

Chairperson, Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission

Submitted on: 3/8/2019 9:45:13 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/11/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wayne S Honda	Testifying for Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission	Support	No

### Comments:

Aloha Chairs and committee members, I support this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for They have taken the lead in demonstrating that it is possible to reverse ecological damage after years of neglect a history for future generations and to connect our residents with the healing of Kaho`olawe through meaningful and the staff support for future generations and to connect our residents with the healing of Kaho`olawe through meaningful and staff support for future generations.





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

Testimony of Aha Moku Advisory Committee



Senate Committee on Water and Land

Monday, March 11, 2019 1:15 p.m. Conference Room 229

### House Bill 454 HD 1 - Support Relating to Kahoolawe Island Reserve

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice-Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the Committee,

House Bill 454 HD 1 appropriates funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources to support native dryland forest restoration, management, and maintenance on Kahoolawe Island Reserve. The Hawaii State Aha Moku (AMAC) strongly supports this measure.

Since the restoration of the Aha Moku Process by the Legislature in 2012, via Act 288, §171.4-5, the Aha Moku Advisory Committee (AMAC) has successfully brought the voices of the communities and 'ohana of ahupua'a districts forward to work with Hawai'i government in addressing and sustaining the natural and cultural resources of our Pae'Aina.

Moku O Kanaloa, (the traditional name for Kahoolawe) has a strong cultural history that includes the islands of Maui, Lanai, and Molokai. The families with the generational knowledge of the endemic plants that once flourished on Kanaloa still exist. In ancient times Kanaloa was rich in its ecosystem and was a central point of fisheries that supported Maui, Lanai and Molokai. The Kahoolawe Dryland Forest Project seeks to conduct plantings of plants that are indigenous to Kahoolawe on the leeward, upland slopes to reestablish native forest watersheds, increase ground water recharge, diminish surface water runoff and lessen coral reef sedimentation.

The native Hawaiian families who have direct connections to Kahoolawe retain the generational knowledge of the island, including the place names of the sixteen ahupua'a on Kahoolawe. And while they live on Maui, they support the efforts of the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) in their exertions to restore the once vibrant ecosystem of this sacred and special place.

Funding this measure will safeguard Kahoolawe's long-term goal of the restoration of the island. We urge this committee to pass HB 454 HD 1.

Mahalo nui loa,

Les Kuloloio, Po'o, Moku O Kanaloa (Kahoolawe)

Aha Moku Advisory Committee

Phone: 808-281-7652

Email: pokaiuli2@gmail.com



The Voice for Hawaii's Ocean Tourism Industry
1188 Bishop St., Ste. 1003\*\*Honolulu, HI 96813-2938
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timlyons@hawaiiantel.net

### COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

### NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE:

Monday, March 11, 2019

TIME:

1:15 P.M.

# TESTIMONY OF THE OCEAN TOURISM COALITON IN SUPPORT OF HB454HD1 RELATING TO KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE

Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of WTL Committee:

My name is James E. Coon, President of the Ocean Tourism Coalition (OTC), speaking in SUPPORT OF HB 454 RELATING TO KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE.

The OTC represents over 300 small ocean tourism businesses state wide. All of them operate from State Boating Facilities managed by DLNR/DOBOR. Most of these are family businesses which are locally owned and operated.

While this proposed legislation does not directly impact our industry we believe that the restoring, managing, preserving and maintaining the dry land forest of Kaho'olawe is important to everyone who calls Hawaii home.

It is our opinion that KIRK and these efforts should be supported by the General tax revenue.

Please pass HB454 It is the right thing to do to help restore Kaho'olawe.

Sincerely,

James E. Coon, President,

Ocean Tourism Coalition

<u>HB-454-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/9/2019 9:40:28 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/11/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Regina Gregory	Testifying for EcoTipping Points Project	Support	No

Center for Hawaiian Sovereignty Studies 46-255 Kahuhipa St. Suite 1205 Kane'ohe, HI 96744 (808) 247-7942

Kenneth R. Conklin, Ph.D. Executive Director e-mail <u>Ken\_Conklin@yahoo.com</u> Unity, Equality, Aloha for all



To: SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Re: HB 454 HD1

RELATING TO KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE.

Appropriates funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources to support native dryland forest restoration, management, and maintenance on Kahoolawe Island Reserve. (HB454 HD1)

For hearing on Monday, March 11, 2019

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION** 

THE ORIGINAL VERSION OF this bill proposes to transfer \$6,000,000.00 taxpayer dollars to the Department of Land and Natural Resources to provide funding for construction of infrastructure for drylands forestspecified programs of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission at the rate of \$3,000,000.00 for each of two fiscal years 2019-2020 and 2020-2021.

Please do not place this burden on the taxpayers of the State of Hawaii.

Let OHA pay all costs associated with the rehabilitation of Kaho'olawe -- an island which this legislature and OHA both believe will be handed over in the near future to the Hawaiian tribe which OHA has been working so hard to create for at least 19 years.

As the language of HB455 points out (another bill you have under consideration right now), "Pursuant to section 6K-9, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the management and control of the Kaho'olawe island reserve will be transferred to a sovereign Native Hawaiian entity upon its recognition by the state and federal governments. This event is anticipated to occur within the timeframe of the 2026 strategic plan."

In Act 195 (2011) this legislature set in motion a process now underway to create a Hawaiian tribe. The U.S. Department of Interior recently proclaimed a regulation whereby that tribe can get federal recognition -- the final rule 43CFR50 proclaimed by the U.S. Department of Interior by publication in the Federal Register on October 14, 2016. Both Act 195 and the Department of Interior regulation insist that the Hawaiian tribe must be exclusively for Native Hawaiians, and that anyone lacking a drop of the magic blood must be ruthlessly excluded.

According to OHA trustee Lei Ahu Isa, OHA has used approximately \$33 Million of state government money over the years to lobby for federal recognition of a Hawaiian tribe either through the Akaka bill or through advertising and racial registration programs both in Hawaii and on the mainland. OHA provided the entire funding for an election of delegates and a monthlong meeting in 2006 which produced a proposed constitution for the tribe. OHA has repeatedly pledged that when a Hawaiian tribe has achieved federal recognition, OHA will transfer all its assets to the tribe.

If the tribe is successful in creating itself and getting federal recognition, section 6K-9 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes guarantees that the island of Kaho'olawe will immediately be ripped away from the State of Hawaii and handed over to the Hawaiian tribe, to which people with no native blood are forbidden to belong.

This legislature simply must not confiscate tax dollars from 80% of Hawaii's people for a project which they will be racially excluded from.

It would be foolish and immoral for the State of Hawaii to spend taxpayer dollars collected from 100% of Hawaii's people of all races to pay for upgrades to an island which is expected to be removed from the State of Hawaii and handed over to a sovereign "nation" [tribe] restricted by law to one racial group whose people are perhaps 20% of Hawaii's people, most of whom will probably not even join the tribe. Once the tribe has been created there will be negotiations between the State of Hawaii vs. the tribe to decide how much additional land and money the State will give to the tribe. The State should not give away resources before the negotiations even begin.

OHA's most recent annual report (2018) shows that OHA has total assets of more than \$662 million. And it continues getting more payments of state government money (ceded land revenues plus legislative appropriations) every year, including a bill in this year's legislature demanding \$35 million per year from ceded land revenues.

Enough already! OHA can easily afford funding for Kaho'olawe. Let OHA pay whatever money it wishes to pay to KIRC to rehabilitate Kaho'olawe -- an island which this legislature and OHA both believe will be handed over in the near future to the Hawaiian tribe which OHA is working so hard to create.

Dear Elected Official and Policy Maker,

I am writing to you today, in concern for the funding for Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission. I stand in full support of Director Michael Naho'opi'i, and his efforts to sustain the KIRC funding.

I find myself disheartened, when I see that he must consistently struggle to find funding for the important conservation and ecological work, that must take place on Kaho'olawe, due to devastating destruction by the Navy.

KIRC desperately needs your help securing appropriations for supplies, man power, and maintenance of motorized vehicular transportation for use both at sea, and on land.

KIRC constantly needs funds for the following reasons, to buy the supplies needed to maintain planting restoration and conservation efforts, to maintain housing facilities of staff and volunteers, to supply food and basic survival materials for the workers and volunteers, and to be able to all maintain mechanical workings that keep the jobs running, not to mention countless other costs that accrue when restoring an entire island.

I am asking you, as my elected representative, to hear me now, and pass this message on to the people you work with. Go to them, and describe KIRC's yearly, no, daily plight, to secure funding for these and more important items. Please be the person that I am glad I voted for, and use your persuasive powers to reach across party lines, to get all legislators to cast their votes for any and all bills, that protect the status quo, and/or increase the funding for Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission. Please make informed speeches to colleagues, and hold discussions with your peers, to explain why KIRC needs to keep a personnel team of highly qualified professionals. Elaborate when necessary, that these are the people who staff the core team, responsible for keeping the island in the positive direction toward a goal of total restoration.

It is important to continue to provide funding that enables KIRC to invite teams of volunteers to Kaho'olawe. Their volunteer program provides a necessary part of the work force on the island. A steady flow of these volunteers is imperative to keep, in order for KIRC to accomplish the goals they have set Volunteers work with the staff, to perform the laborious tasks of repairing the

island. As a volunteer, I am devoted to the health of these Hawaiian Islands, and I possess the love for Kaho'olawe, as do countless others. Our families are witnesses to the action we take today, and for generations to come. Please do your part to honor the will of future generations who strive to repair the island from the devastation. Hawaiians were witnesses to its destruction, and are the resource of volunteers who feels the urgency to take part in its restoration.

Therefore, I am urging you to **vote in support of Bill HB454 HD1**, and get involved in helping KIRC's scientists, cultural practitioners, Hawaiian people, passionate natural conservationists like myself, and countless talented people, who vow to do whatever it takes to restore Kaho'olawe Island to its natural condition: flourishing in native Hawaiian flora and fauna.

Thank you for reading my letter of concern. Please vote in support of KIRC's quest for financial security at every opportunity. I know I will be observing your courage and fortitude in our futures.

Sincerely,

Pamela Zirker

6406 Kawaihau Rd.

Kapa'a, Kaua'i, HI,

96746

Phone (808) 821-1350

Submitted on: 3/8/2019 1:55:56 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/11/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Hawkins Biggins	Individual	Support	No	

### Comments:

Aloha Chairs and committee members,

I support this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission. They have taken the lead in demonstrating that it is possible to reverse ecological damage after years of neglect and abuse, to preserve our native cultural history for future generations and to connect our residents with the healing of Kaho`olawe through meaningful and safe work on the island.

Mahalo,

S. Hawkins Biggins

Submitted on: 3/8/2019 2:20:17 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/11/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kawehi Kuailani	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

Aloha Chairs and committee members,

I support this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission. They have taken the lead in demonstrating that it is possible to reverse ecological damage after years of neglect and abuse, to preserve our native cultural history for future generations and to connect our residents with the healing of Kaho`olawe through meaningful and safe work on the island. It is our duty as po'e o Hawai'i to mÄ • lama our 'Ä • ina. The healing of our past is of great need and is our kÅ «leana to be able to give it back to our keiki.

KIRC has extended their love and hearts for Kaho'olawe and kanaka maoli beyond measure. I am very fortunate to have been able to work along side with such amazing, strong, and resilient warriors! Please hear us as we ask that you continue to support our efforts to bringing life back to such a beautiful and "mana-ful" moku! E ola o Kanaloa!

Submitted on: 3/8/2019 2:29:30 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/11/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Dr. Kaliko Baker	Individual	Support	No	

### Comments:

Aloha Chairs and committee members,

I support this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC). They have taken the lead in demonstrating that it is possible to reverse ecological damage after years of neglect and abuse, to preserve our native cultural history for future generations and to connect our residents with the healing of Kaho`olawe through meaningful and safe work on the island. Through collaborative efforts with the Protech Kahoʻolawe 'Ohana, the KIRC has done wonderful regreening the Kanaloa Moku.

Me ke aloha nÅ •,

Dr. Kaliko Baker

Commissioner of the KIRC

Submitted on: 3/8/2019 2:40:27 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/11/2019 1:15:00 PM

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

### Comments:

Please support this bill for restoration of the dryland forest on Kahoolawe. As an active volunteer for reforestation here on Maui (Auwahi, and also Maui Forest Bird Recovery Project), I have been involved for several years now, and have observed the lasting value of these small investments in our future. Severe ecological devastation on Kahoolawe can be reversed by acting now, and may even reap benefits for the rest of Maui county by recovering the cloud cover through the action of reforesting. Think of the generations to come!

Submitted on: 3/8/2019 5:08:47 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/11/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Marty Martins	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

Aloha, I support this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission. They are leaders in providing education and also coordinating volunteer work parties that are helping to reverse ecological damage after years of neglect and abuse, to preserve our native cultural history for future generations and to connect our residents with the healing of Kaho`olawe through meaningful and safe work on the island.

Submitted on: 3/8/2019 6:14:35 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/11/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Roy Alameida	Individual	Support	No	

### Comments:

Aloha Chairs and Committee members. I am a resident of Kea'au on Hawai'i Island. I feel these two bills are very important for the survival of Kaho'olawe. I support this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission. They have taken the lead to demonstrate that it is possible to reverse ecological damage after years of neglect and abuse, to preserve our native cultural history for future generations and to connect Hawai'i residents with the healing of Kaho'olawe through meaningful and safe work on the island. The funding bills HB454 Kaho'olawe Dryland Forest Restoration and HB455 funding for Operations are necessary and need your attention. Please support HB454 and HB455,

Mahalo for your attention,

Roy Alameida

Submitted on: 3/8/2019 6:54:05 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/11/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
johann winkler	Individual	Support	No	

### Comments:

Aloha Chairs and committee members, I support this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission. They have taken the lead in demonstrating that it is possible to reverse ecological damage after years of neglect and abuse, to preserve our native cultural history for future generations and to connect our residents with the healing of Kaho`olawe through meaningful and safe work on the island.

Submitted on: 3/9/2019 3:09:37 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/11/2019 1:15:00 PM

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

### Comments:

Aloha Chairs and committee members, I support this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission. They have taken the lead in demonstrating that it is possible to reverse ecological damage after years of neglect and abuse, to preserve our native cultural history for future generations and to connect our residents with the healing of Kaho`olawe through meaningful and safe work on the island.

Submitted on: 3/10/2019 8:32:25 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/11/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Terri Gavagan	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify in favor of HB454 HD1. This bill, if approved, will allow the KIRC to continue on of its most important missions--to restore Kaho'olawe which will help to prevent one of the most pervasive environmental challenges on the island--the loss of topsoil due to erosion.

Submitted on: 3/10/2019 8:39:53 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/11/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Oceana Francis	Individual	Support	No	

### Comments:

Aloha Chairs and committee members, I support this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission. They have taken the lead in demonstrating that it is possible to reverse ecological damage after years of neglect and abuse, to preserve our native cultural history for future generations and to connect our residents with the healing of Kaho`olawe through meaningful and safe work on the island.

Submitted on: 3/10/2019 11:11:47 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/11/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Andrea Quinn	Individual	Support	No	

### Comments:

Dear Honorable Committee Members:

Please support HB454. Protecting Kahoolawe is important in helping to reverse all the damage inflicted upon that island.

Thank you for the opportunity to present my testimony.

Andrea Quinn

Kihei

<u>HB-454-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/8/2019 10:05:58 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/11/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
kalani fukumoto	Individual	Support	No	

### Comments:

i support all funding for Kaho'olawe island.

please fund KIRC

<u>HB-454-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/9/2019 1:55:22 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/11/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Rowena Somerville	Individual	Support	No	

### Comments:

I am is strong support of this bill.

<u>HB-454-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/8/2019 3:33:39 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/11/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cassandra L. Smith	Individual	Support	No

<u>HB-454-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/8/2019 4:36:29 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/11/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carmela Noneza	Individual	Support	No

<u>HB-454-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/9/2019 8:04:45 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/11/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Miki K. Tomita	Individual	Support	No

<u>HB-454-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/9/2019 7:38:30 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/11/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Omar Sultan	Individual	Support	No	

<u>HB-454-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/8/2019 1:56:46 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/11/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kylee Mar	Individual	Support	No

<u>HB-454-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/9/2019 11:25:19 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/11/2019 1:15:00 PM

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



Submitted on: 3/11/2019 7:27:06 AM Testimony for WTL on 3/11/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dean Tokishi	Individual	Support	No

### Comments:

Aloha Chairs and committee members, I support this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission. They have taken the lead in demonstrating that it is possible to reverse ecological damage after years of neglect and abuse, to preserve our native cultural history for future generations and to connect our residents with the healing of Kaho`olawe through meaningful and safe work on the island.



<u>HB-454-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2019 8:49:42 AM Testimony for WTL on 3/11/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Milholen	Individual	Support	No