

SCR-50-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 12:56:24 PM

Testimony for CAI on 4/13/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lynette Cruz	Malama Makua	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Malama Makua supports this resolution and the thinking behind the creation of the Waianae Moku Kupuna Council. As someone who has been involved from the beginning, I find the participants who are drawn to this group, both kupuna and kako'o, are new to the process of community dialogue and interacting with their/our elected representatives. This is a positive first step in bringing together all our westside kupuna to learn more about all aspects of the community and to come up with ideas and brainstorm solutions to deal with the many issues on the westside. Mahalo for your support of community empowerment at multiple levels, but especially in this community which has, for the most part, been ignored and/or underfunded for far too long.

SCR-50-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 12:25:09 PM

Testimony for CAI on 4/13/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Heather Graeber	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support

SCR-50-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/12/2022 12:28:59 PM

Testimony for CAI on 4/13/2022 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Regina Peterson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in full support of this resolution to recognize the Wai'anae Kūpuna Council as an advisory resource to the legislature of the state of hawai'i representing the wai'anae community. This advisory council is an inclusive group of people looking out for the betterment of the community and people of Wai'anae and are a group willing to collaborate and help strengthen other communities as one!!!

FROM THE PERSONAL DESK OF JULIE REYES ODA

April 12, 2022

Thank you, Hawai‘i House Committee on Culture, Arts, and International Affairs for hearing this resolution designating the Wai‘anae Moku Kupuna Council as an advisory resource to the legislature. I am Julie Reyes Oda, math teacher, and department head at Nānākuli High and Intermediate School and HSTA Leeward President. Leeward District includes Pearl City, Waipahu, ‘Ewa, Kapolei, Nānākuli, and Wai‘anae. Nearly 1 out of every 4 teachers in the state teach in the Leeward District. **I write in support of SCR 50, SD1.**

I attended Wai‘anae Moku Kupuna Council meetings twice this year and spoke at both of them. It was largely because of this group that I co-wrote an article with Matt Weyer in the Civil Beat about the lack of Hawaiian immersion schools in the Leeward District. Leeward District has the largest number of Native Hawaiian students of any DOE district (concentrated on the Wai‘anae Coast). In a bilingual state, language is essential in maintaining Hawaiian history and culture.

<https://www.civilbeat.org/2022/03/doe-has-a-constitutional-duty-to-provide-immersion-and-cultural-programs/>. The Wai‘anae Moku Kupuna Council spoke of the brilliance of the Hawaiian people and the only way to keep our history alive is passing it on to the keiki from our kupuna.

It is also important to keep our historic and cultural knowledge close to those who make decisions on our behalf. The kupuna are the ones who can make that happen. **Please support SCR 50, SD1.**