



*KŪKULU KE EA A KANALOA*  
**KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION**

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**Testimony of  
MICHAEL K. NĀHO'OPT'I  
Executive Director**

**Before the Senate Committee on**

**WATER AND LAND  
And  
HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Tuesday, January 31, 2023  
1:00 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**In consideration of  
SENATE BILL 100  
RELATING TO THE KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION**

Senate Bill 100 appropriates funds for the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission and to fund three full-time equivalent (3.0 FTE) positions for the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission. The Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) strongly supports this measure.

The KIRC is the single government agency responsible to provide and maintain on-island infrastructure and services on Kaho'olawe. Our on-island responsibilities include operating and maintaining an OSHA standard, field workcamp to support staff and a volunteer workforce while restoring the devastated landscape of Kahoolawe.

The general funds provided in Act 248/SLH2022 was a significant one-time contribution to the operations and support needed to continue the KIRC's innovative and effective Kaho'olawe Island restoration and management efforts. The KIRC seeks, through this measure, to make this appropriation permanent to ensure that the KIRC can continue the long-term operations and maintenance of the Honokanai'a Base Camp, on-island facilities and infrastructure, and the KIRC ocean going vessel, 'Ōhua. Without our base of operations, the well-maintained equipment and facilities on Kaho'olawe, and our means of getting to and from Kahoolawe, safe public access as well as the continuing management and restoration efforts on Kaho'olawe would be impossible. This funding is crucial to the long-term stability and continuation of the KIRC's on-island restoration and rehabilitation efforts.

The additional KIRC positions are critically vital as the KIRC has observed a long-term increase in unpredictability and severity of weather and ocean conditions in the waters surrounding Maui and Kaho'olawe, most likely due to climate change and global warming, which has resulted in an increased need for additional manpower to safely and effectively operate the KIRC ocean vessel.

Additionally, our Kaho`olawe field teams also needs additional field support as we increased our focus to coastline stabilization and coastal wetland restoration efforts.

The KIRC has lived on a shoestring budget for the past decade, making do with whatever resources and funds we have been able to get, but at the same time been able to do amazing work, restoring one of the most devastated and remote places in Hawaii. The task ahead of the KIRC is one of the greatest challenges for this and the next generation, but to many here in Hawaii, a challenge that is worth the effort.

**SB-100**

Submitted on: 1/30/2023 6:53:11 AM

Testimony for WTL on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lyman Abbott	Testifying for Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

On behalf of the Restoration Department for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission, i would like to submit testimony in support of SB100. Working on Kaho`olawe since 1998, i have seen many positive changes to the lanscape but there is much more to be dome. Working with 1000's of volunteers over the years, enables them to experience the island and assist with the restoration efforts in manging the extensive erosion still taking place today. To repair the watersheds is key to reversing the current trend of severe soil loss and subsequent siltation of the nearshore marine environment. Thank you, Lyman



## SB100

### RELATING TO THE KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

Senate Committee on Water and Land,  
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

January 31, 2023

1:00 PM

Room 224

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The Administration of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) will recommend to the Board of Trustees a position in **SUPPORTS** SB100, which appropriates to the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) – the agency that is statutorily in charge of restoring the Island to its natural state following eight brutal decades of desecration as a military practice site – \$400,000 for three full-time positions for cultural restoration for the fiscal year 2023-2024 and an equal amount for the fiscal year 2024-2025; funding will come from the state general funds to KIRC through the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

**The Island of Kaho‘olawe is of special significance to the people of Hawai‘i – as a sacred place to the Native Hawaiian people.** From ka wā kahiko (the time long ago) to this very day, Kaho‘olawe has served as a navigational waypoint for voyagers in their intrepid travels between the Islands of Hawai‘i and beyond. Across a vast vibrant ocean, under the brilliant sky above, the people of the time before and the people here and now, traversing space and time, ever-form connections through this cherished Island to people, places, and cultures across the world. This inter-woven fabric of humankind’s triumph over persistent hardship is a testament to our enduring capacity to prevail in the face of seemingly insurmountable adversity.

We still remember George Helm and Kimo Mitchell. We still remember aunty Frenchy DeSoto, uncle Charlie Maxwell, aunty Joyce Kainoa, Dr. Noa Emmett Aluli, and all the voyagers who braved tumultuous seas to connect Kaho‘olawe with us all, in a greater understanding of our collective role to aloha and mālama (care for) these Islands that we love, cherish, and call home.

Kaho‘olawe continues to serve as a waypoint for our connections through time and across space, with those who came before us, those here now, and all those who will come after. Eia nō ke kāhea o Kaho‘olawe, here is the call of the Island – to you.

OHA expresses a great appreciation for the opportunity to support this measure and respectfully requests that the Legislature **PASS** SB100. Mahalo nui loa.

January 30, 2023

TO: The Honorable Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair  
Senate Committee on Water and Land

The Honorable Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair  
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

FROM: Carmen Hulu Lindsey, Chair  
Board of Trustees at the Office of Hawaiian Affairs

SUBJECT: SB 100 – RELATING TO THE KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE  
COMMISSION.

Hearing: January 31, 2023, 1:00 p.m.  
CR 224 & Videoconference

My name is Carmen Hulu Lindsey, Chair of the Board of Trustees for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and a KIRC Commissioner, and I am providing written testimony in **SUPPORT** of SB100. I want to first say mahalo for the funding provided to KIRC in the 2022 Legislative session. KIRC has done amazing work over the years to restore and preserve Kaho‘olawe after decades of bombings; however, the work is far from done. They are still in need of crucial funding and full-time staff to ensure that operations are maintained so that critical restoration and cultural activities can continue on Kaho‘olawe. So, I humbly ask for the Committees’ support to uphold the State’s responsibility to ensure continuity and the enhancement of projects and activities per the federal mandate. Mahalo nui iā ‘oukou for this opportunity to offer my written testimony of support.

**SB-100**

Submitted on: 1/27/2023 2:31:05 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Margaret Pulver	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Members of the Senate Committees on Water & Land and Hawaiian Affairs,

I urge you to pass SB100. I am in full SUPPORT of this measure to make the \$400,000 in operating funds appropriated to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) in last year's state budget permanent and to provide additional funding support for three (3.0 FTE) additional field staff to help with on-island restoration projects. This additional funding and staff support will allow the KIRC to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i. The support provided by this measure will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho'olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of land, ocean and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods. I respectfully ask you to please PASS SB100.

Thank you,

Margaret Pulver

**SB-100**

Submitted on: 1/28/2023 1:45:43 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Susan Ching Harbin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Members of the Senate Committees on Water & Land and Hawaiian Affairs,

I urge you to pass SB100. I am in full SUPPORT of this measure to make the \$400,000 in operating funds appropriated to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) in last year's state budget permanent and to provide additional funding support for three (3.0 FTE) additional field staff to help with on-island restoration projects. This additional funding and staff support will allow the KIRC to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i. The support provided by this measure will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho'olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of land, ocean and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods. I respectfully ask you to please PASS SB100.

Mahalo for your time,

Susan N Ching Harbin

**SB-100**

Submitted on: 1/28/2023 3:31:59 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lara Reynolds	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Members of the Senate Committees on Water & Land and Hawaiian Affairs,

I urge you to pass SB100. I am in full SUPPORT of this measure to make the \$400,000 in operating funds appropriated to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) in last year's state budget permanent and to provide additional funding support for three (3.0 FTE) additional field staff to help with on-island restoration projects. This additional funding and staff support will allow the KIRC to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for both present and future generations. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i. The support provided by this measure will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho'olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of land, ocean and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, which I have experienced firsthand as a volunteer, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods. I ola Kanaloa, I ola Kākou!

I respectfully ask you to please PASS SB100.

Thank you,

Lara Reynolds



**SB-100**

Submitted on: 1/28/2023 5:20:39 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jim Cooper	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Members of the Senate Committees on Water & Land and Hawaiian Affairs,

I am in full SUPPORT of SB100 and urge you to pass it to make the \$400,000 in operating funds appropriated to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) in last year's state budget permanent and to provide additional funding support for three (3.0 FTE) additional field staff to help with on-island restoration projects. The long-term restoration of Kaho'olawe will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. This funding is necessary and will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho'olawe. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods. I respectfully ask you to please PASS SB100.

Mahalo,

Jim Cooper

**SB-100**

Submitted on: 1/28/2023 8:54:24 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Keomailani Hanapi Hirata	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB100

**SB-100**

Submitted on: 1/30/2023 8:27:40 AM

Testimony for WTL on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Christina Wine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Members of the Senate Committees on Water & Land and Hawaiian Affairs,

I urge you to pass SB100. I am in full **SUPPORT** of this measure to make the \$400,000 in operating funds appropriated to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) in last year's state budget permanent and to provide additional funding support for three (3.0 FTE) additional field staff to help with on-island restoration projects. This additional funding and staff support will allow the KIRC to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i. The support provided by this measure will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho'olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of land, ocean and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods. I respectfully ask you to please **PASS** SB100.

Mahalo,

Christina

**SB-100**

Submitted on: 1/30/2023 8:30:19 AM

Testimony for WTL on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Terri Gavagan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Members of the Senate Committees on Water & Land and Hawaiian Affairs,

I am testifying in support of SB100. This funding is crucial for the KIRC to continue its mission to provide safe, meaningful access to Kaho'olawe as well as to allow Native Hawaiians to continue to continue their cultural practices.

My family's experiences on Kaho'olawe continue to inspire them in their everyday lives and careers. My husband continues to take volunteers from the hotel he works at to Kaho'olawe yearly to help in restoring the island as part of their kuleana to the Honua'ula Moku where the hotel stands. My daughter's experiences on Kaho'olawe contributed to her career choice. She graduated last month from the University of Hawai'i at Hilo with a B.S. in Marine Science, a Marine Option Program Certificate and a minor in Hawaiian Studies.

Kaho'olawe continues to inspire people from all walks of life to not only restore Kaho'olawe but also to malama aina within their own communities. In order for this to continue, this funding is imperative.

Mahalo,

Terri Gavagan

**SB-100**

Submitted on: 1/30/2023 8:34:48 AM

Testimony for WTL on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Larry Stevens	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support SB100 and malama Kaho'olawe.

**SB-100**

Submitted on: 1/30/2023 8:42:40 AM

Testimony for WTL on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Caroline Sabharwal	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Members of the Senate Committees on Water & Land and Hawaiian Affairs,

I urge you to pass SB100. I am in full **SUPPORT** of this measure to make the \$400,000 in operating funds appropriated to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) in last year's state budget permanent and to provide additional funding support for three (3.0 FTE) additional field staff to help with on-island restoration projects. This funding and staff support will allow the KIRC to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. This funding is needed for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i. The support provided by this measure will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho`olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of land, ocean and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods. I respectfully ask you to please **PASS** SB100.

Mahalo for your time,

Caroline Sabharwal

**SB-100**

Submitted on: 1/30/2023 8:44:39 AM

Testimony for WTL on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
James Bruch	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB100.

**SB-100**

Submitted on: 1/30/2023 9:24:56 AM

Testimony for WTL on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kevin Gavagan	Testifying for Hawaii Resident / native Hawaiian	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please approve SB100 which supports the ongoing efforts to restore and malama our sister moku Kahoolawe. The island continues to be an example of restoration and community collaboration. Imperative that we invest in the KIRC organization to support a robust effort to preserve Kanaloa. Citizens are enriched personally by participating in restoration, while the healing island preserves a vital cultural resource to kanaka maoli.

Mahalo nui

Kevin Gavagan



**SB-100**

Submitted on: 1/30/2023 9:53:34 AM

Testimony for WTL on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Cassandra L. Smith	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Members of the Senate Committees for Water and Land & Hawaiian Affairs,

I urge you to pass SB100. I'm in full **SUPPORT** of this measure to provide financial support for hiring additional three full-time staff members for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC). This will allow the organization to continue their long-term restoration efforts of Kaho`olawe, which ultimately serves all the people of Hawai'i. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique logistical challenges of safely restoring, protecting, and managing the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i for generations to come. Funding will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho`olawe, while also providing the opportunity to support and foster the next generation of land, ocean, and cultural resource managers through an immersive volunteer program. The dynamic safe and meaningful, hands-on experience that KIRC facilitates within the Reserve will greatly benefit from additional funding and staff support. I respectfully ask you to please **PASS** SB100.

Thank you for your time,

Cassandra L. Smith

**SB-100**

Submitted on: 1/30/2023 11:21:55 AM

Testimony for WTL on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Janeece Beauchamp	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support the bill for additional funding and support for KIRC. It's for a wonderful cause that would provide addition personnel needed to help maintain Kaho'olawe.

**SB-100**

Submitted on: 1/30/2023 1:21:17 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lopaka White	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for supporting the restoration efforts on Kaho`olawe.

Kukulu ke ea a Kanaloa!

28 January 2023

Aloha Members of the Senate Committees on Water & Land and Hawaiian Affairs,

I urge you to pass SB100. I am in full **SUPPORT** of this measure to make the \$400,000 in operating funds appropriated to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) in last year's state budget permanent and to provide additional funding support for three (3.0 FTE) additional field staff to help with on-island restoration projects. This additional funding and staff support will allow the KIRC to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come.

I have had the privilege to work on Kaho`olawe assisting in rare plant surveys, propagule collections, and general biological reconnaissance over the last few decades. The ongoing restoration efforts implemented on Kaho`olawe are critically important in our understanding of how to choose best management practices that ensure the greatest health of our `aina not only on Kaho`olawe but on all of our islands here in Hawai`i. Kaho`olawe is an invaluable resource biologically, culturally, and spiritually, it is a wahi pana that provides hope for Hawai`i's native plants, animals, insects, and our people. The funding requested is the absolute least that the Committee can allocate for the continued caretaking and landmark restoration of our environment and ourselves.

Mahalo nui,

Maya LeGrande  
Waialae Avenue 940  
Honolulu HI 96816

**SB-100**

Submitted on: 1/30/2023 9:11:57 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Hema Kealohanuikaiama Watson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha members of the Senate Committee on Water & Land and Hawaiian Affairs,

My name is Hema Kealohanuikaiama Watson and I am a senior at Hālau Kū Māna PCS. I am testifying in full SUPPORT of this measure to make the \$400,000 in operating funds appropriated to the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve (KIRC) in last year's state budget permanent and to provide additional funding support for three (3.0 FTE) additional field staff to help with on-island restoration projects.

Last summer I was able to go to Kahoolawe and be hosted by KIRC. It was one of the most memorable moments of that year and made me realize there is so much we could be doing to help Kaho‘olawe. The US Military bombed this island to high hell for years, abusing its lands and resources. KIRC was created to restore what was left and reinvest into what could be done on that island. However, much of their resources were lost in a fire and they have been left without sufficient funds to replace or repair their equipment.

These funds being made permanent would ensure that KIRC will always have something to use in order to help restore this island. The on-site personnel are also vital as they provide the very much needed extra hands on the island. More people means more work done and they have their work cut out for them.

Kahoolawe can return to its natural state and to a better, more thriving state, but only with our support. I don't want to see the actions of our predecessors be reduced or be in vain. It is our duty to support and reinvest into KIRC and Kaho‘olawe. I testify in strong SUPPORT of SB100 and vehemently urge the Senate Committees of WTL/HWN to support this bill as well, mahalo nō.

**SB-100**

Submitted on: 1/30/2023 11:03:12 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Rosanna Anolani Alegado	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Members of the Senate Committees on Water & Land and Hawaiian Affairs,

I urge you to pass SB100. I am in full SUPPORT of this measure to make the \$400,000 in operating funds appropriated to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) in last year's state budget permanent and to provide additional funding support for three (3.0 FTE) additional field staff to help with on-island restoration projects. This additional funding and staff support will allow the KIRC to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i. The support provided by this measure will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho'olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of land, ocean and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods. I respectfully ask you to please PASS SB100.

Mahalo, Rosie Alegado

**SB-100**

Submitted on: 1/30/2023 11:19:41 PM

Testimony for WTL on 1/31/2023 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Davianna McGregor	Testifying for Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Members of the Senate Committees on Water & Land and Hawaiian Affairs,

I urge you to pass SB100. I am in full SUPPORT of this measure to make the \$400,000 in operating funds appropriated to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) in last year's state budget permanent and to provide additional funding support for three (3.0 FTE) additional field staff to help with on-island restoration projects. This additional funding and staff support will allow the KIRC to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i. The support provided by this measure will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho'olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of land, ocean and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods. I respectfully ask you to please PASS SB100.