

Community 501(c)3 Operating in `Ewa, O`ahu

HOH808.org

# EXECUTIVE OFFICE DOCUMENT

Date: February 12, 2023

Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts

To: Committee Chair Senator Chris Lee

Committee Vice Chair Lorraine Inouye

SUBJ: Senate Bill 844. Authorizes the issuance of special number plates to commemorate Malama Pu'uloa.

DATE: Tuesday, February 14, 2023

TIME: 3:15 PM

From: Anthony Chance, CEO and Founder of Hui O Ho'ohonua

I am writing this Letter of Support for Senate Bill 844. The fundraising fees from this specialty license plate will directly support the restoration of not only Pu'uloa (Pearl Harbor), but the 12 freshwater streams that flow into Pu'uloa from the 12 Ahupua'a's that surround the Sacred waters of Pu'uloa.

#### **Common Management Goals**

- Remove invasive mangrove vegetation from Pearl Harbor shoreline and off-shore islands
- Improve water quality throughout all watersheds associated with Pearl Harbor
- Restore native wetlands and shoreline vegetation
- Restore oyster, mullet and native bird populations
- Restore Hawaiian fishponds where possible
- Engage the community in resource management and education
- Collect data that serves to inform our efforts
- Increase inter-agency collaboration and capacity
- Increased fresh water and food security, especially urgent in the current economic climate of Hawai'i

Watershed restoration:

- Associated habitat restoration for endangered/endemic species and mitigation required of the DoD
- Flood mitigation, associated with climate change and storm resiliency planning
- Decreased nonpoint polluted run-off and Pearl Harbor sedimentation

Sincerely,

1

Anthony Chance CEO and Founder Hui O Ho`ohonua (HOH808) 501(c)(3) PO Box 2546 Ewa Beach, Hawaii 808-628-0937 <u>http://www.hoh808.org/</u> Est. 2015





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#### SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORATION AND CULTURE AND THE ARTS Tuesday, February 14, 2023 – 3:15PM

# Hawai'i Bicycling League <u>Supports</u> SB844, relating to Special Number Plates

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye, and Committee Members,

My name is Travis Counsell, and I am the Executive Director of the Hawai'i Bicycling League (HBL). We are a non-profit organization founded in 1975 with the mission of enabling more people to ride bicycles for health, recreation, and transportation. We strive to create communities across our islands that have safe, accessible, and inclusive environments for people to bike, walk, and roll.

Hawai'i Bicycling League supports SB844, which authorized the issuance of special number plates to commemorate Malama Pu'uloa.

HBL is proud to partner with Malama Pu'uloa in their efforts to restore Pu'uloa, especially the areas adjacent to the Pearl Harbor Historic Trail and future Leeward Bikeway. The efforts underway by Malama Pu'uloa have positive impacts throughout our community and 'āina. Special number plates to recognize these efforts are justified and would help spread awareness to further increase their restoration programs.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony. Please support **SB844** and recognize the great work of Malama Pu'uloa.

Ride Aloha,

Travis Counsell

**Travis L. Counsell** Executive Director Hawai'i Bicycling League

#### <u>SB-844</u> Submitted on: 2/12/2023 7:10:31 PM Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Dr. Eileen M Gawrys	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

# Malama Pu`uloa is the primary program of Hui o Ho`ohonua

I live in West Loch Fairways and for 30 years have witnessed the deterioration of the historic fish ponds near the West Loch of Pearl Harbor and the coast line of West Loch itself. Malama Pu'uloa is the primary project of Hui o Ho`ohonua (HOH), a 501 (c)3 non-profit created by members of the `Ewa community. I am now witnessing the Malama Pu'uloa project connecting groups of all ages and from all over the island, inclucing military groups, to help restore this area by cultivating a strong sense of stewardship, pride and kuleana.

The West Loch shoreline path runs through this area and is soon to be incorporated into the Leeward Bikeway which will increase the exposure of this historic area.

This area of Oahu is often overlooked for it's historic significance. Creating a license plate will help raise awareness sense of place.

#### <u>SB-844</u> Submitted on: 2/11/2023 4:56:02 PM Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
John Rogers	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lee and Vice Chair Inouye,

Please Support SB844!

I am member of the Ewa Neighborhood Board #23 and a committed volunteer to the Malama Pu'uloa Project. We are removing the invasive red mangrove from the shoreline of the western loch of Pearl Harbor and several of the fishponds near the Honouliuli Stream and planting native plants in their stead. When I moved to West Loch Fairways in 1993 one could see out into western loch of Pu'uloa and into the fishponds now much of shoreline is thick with mangrove. Except for the areas where we have been working. Just last week we spotted an Alae 'ula (common moorhen Endangered) swimming with its newly hatched chick in the fishpond that we have been clearing mangrove over the last year or so. This is important work that Malama Pu'uloa is doing and amazingly mostly with volunteers. The Leeward Bikeway runs right through the project area. By clearing the mangrove that is along this bikeway and Kapapapuhi Park, Malama Pu'uloa is creating destination for recreation and providing a safer multimodal transportation alternative.

Thank You,

John Rogers

## <u>SB-844</u> Submitted on: 2/13/2023 4:16:18 PM Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Sandy Ward	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Senators of the Transportation, Culture and Arts Committee,

Please pass SB844 to raise statewide awareness of the networked, community-driven effort to restore Pearl Harbor to abundance - to Mālama Pu'uloa. Mālama Pu'uloa license plates not only raise awareness but can provide a small funding stream for the inspiring work that almost 10,000 community volunteers have been involved in over the last 3.5 years.

This effort involves over 20 area schools, several military volunteer groups and businesses as well as volunteers from all over the island who believe that the waters and shoreline of Pu`uloa can be restored - hopefully to their historic abundance. This effort is vital to providing water and food security for the entire island of O`ahu and a hope spot for the entire state. In the shadow of the Red Hill water contamination crisis, help us let the world know that we Mālama, or care for, Pu`uloa.

Mahalo for your consideration.

## <u>SB-844</u> Submitted on: 2/13/2023 5:57:32 PM Testimony for TCA on 2/14/2023 3:15:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier</b> Position	Testify
Olivia Carbi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello,

I am a Master's student at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and I'm writing in support of SB844. I am motivated by my work with a community non-profit to restore the Pearl Harbor (Pu`uloa) shoreline, streams, and Hawaiian fishponds. Learning about the historic abundance of this area and seeing how much it has been neglected over the years is devastating. Being a part of its rehabilitation has been truly inspiring, but it is not a small feat. The creation of a Mālama Pu`uloa license plate through this bill serves as a valuable tool for promoting awareness of our work, while also offering a possible funding source for our efforts.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Olivia Carbi