JOSH GREEN, M.D. GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĂINA

SYLVIA LUKE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĂINA





STATE OF HAWAI'I | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA

P.O. BOX 621 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809 DAWN N.S. CHANG CHAIRPERSON BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

> RYAN K.P. KANAKA'OLE FIRST DEPUTY

DEAN D. UYENO ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT ENGINEERING FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE HISTORIC PRESERVATION KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION LAND STATE PARKS

Testimony of DAWN N. S. CHANG Chairperson

Before the House Committee on WATER AND LAND Tuesday, January 30, 2024 9:00AM State Capitol Room 415 & Via Videoconference

In consideration of HOUSE BILL 1928 RELATING TO HISTORIC PRESERVATION

House Bill 1928 would amend chapter 6E, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) to reduce the deadline for the Department of Natural Resources (Department) to approve projects subject to review under section 6E-10, HRS, and imposes a similar deadline on State projects subject to review under section 6E-8. The Department acknowledges the intent of this measure and offers the following comments.

The amending language at page 1, lines 4-8, of this bill conflates historic preservation submissions and recommendations with the issuance of permits. The Department issues a number of approvals for land use that may be subject to review under section 6E-8, HRS. Those approvals are subject to the authority of the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR). SHPD makes comments on the potential effects on historic properties, archaeological resources, and burial sites that may result from the issuance of a permit by the issuing agency. As presently drafted, SHPD's failure to comment within 45-days would automatically issue the underlying permit. The Department does not believe that this is the intent of this amendment.

Furthermore, chapter 13-275, Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR), which governs the process for review of State projects subject to SHPD review under section 6E-8, HRS, includes deadlines for SHPD review of the various documents required to complete the review. None of SHPD's deadlines in chapter 13-275, HAR, exceed 45-days. The Department believes that the State should lead by example in preserving the Hawai'i's historic and cultural heritage.

Likewise, the amendment to section 6E-10, HRS, proposed at page 1, lines 8-11, of this bill similarly conflates SHPD review and recommendation with issuance of a permit. SHPD does not issue any permits related to work on a property subject to review under section 6E-10 HRS. If a permit is required, it is issued by another county or State agency, not SHPD. Properties subject to review under section 6E-10, HRS, are already listed in the Hawai'i or national registers of historic places. As such, the listed properties have been evaluated and recognized as among Hawai'i's historic properties. The Department believes that great care should be exercised in the review of projects affecting already listed properties. The Department believes that reducing the time available for SHPD to review, consider, and discuss alternatives with the owner to preserve the character of these significant properties is not appropriate.

The Department believes that these amendments are not necessary. Accordingly, the Department recommends that the Committee hold this measure without action.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide comments on this measure.



HB1928 RELATING TO HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEWS House Committee on Water & Land

| January 30, 2024 9:00 AM Koom 430 | nuary 30, 2024 | 9:00 AM | Room 430 |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|---------|----------|
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Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure. The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) will recommend that the Board of Trustees (BOT) **OPPOSE** HB1928, which will add a section to Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS) Chapter 6E to require that the State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) complete their review via approval or determination issuance for state projects and privately owned historic properties within 45 days of receiving a completed submittal. If SHPD does not make a determination within 45 days, the application would be automatically approved.

OHA's concerns are rooted in our care for understaffed and -resourced SHPD staff and upholding the integrity of reviews of historic and cultural properties. Specifically, OHA believes this bill 1) could unnecessarily put historic properties and cultural resources at risk by forcing a limited and rushed review process on an already understaffed and -resourced agency; and 2) does not account for the fact that many delays in HRS 6E reviews often come from incomplete applicant submittals or report errors. We urge this committee not to rush reviews that involve some of our most precious resources, inclusive of iwi kupuna, and perpetrate a disservice upon the intent of HRS 6E. We urge this committee to consider instead measures in other bills (SB2440, SB2587, and HB2607), which can address issues with the process while upholding its integrity.

Firstly, over the years, OHA has observed that SHPD has struggled to retain staff and subsequently carry out basic administrative functions and violation investigations. Further, they have consistently carried a backlog of project reviews from year to year. These concerns have also been captured by the State Auditor. Nevertheless, SHPD's dedicated staff have worked hard to conduct and maintain the integrity of project reviews they are able to do in a manner that is consistent with the Hawai'i Administrative Rules (HAR). These HARs currently call for a 90-day review period, with each step of the historic preservation review period would overburden SHPD in a way that could result in rushed reviews and historic properties being harmed. Further, such an amendment as proposed in this bill



HB1928 RELATING TO HISTORIC PRESERVATION House Committee on Water & Land

would require a subsequent HAR rule change. If SHPD is to carry out the HAR rule change process as well, it would burden them further. OHA believes these place unnecessary burdens on SHPD to allow for adequate reviews and is too great a risk to cultural resources. HRS 6E declares that it is in the public's interest to have a comprehensive program of historic preservation. We must uphold the integrity of SHPD review and cannot have a fast-tracked limited one.

Secondly, OHA has observed that typically SHPD rejects projects for incomplete submittals or repeated technical errors found in archaeological reports. Each time a report or submittal is rejected, the time clock for each step in the historic preservation review process is reset. It is not SHPD's fault if project submittals prepared by inexperienced staff or contractors keep getting rejected. When OHA is asked to review projects, we too often find ourselves requesting more information about historic properties from applicants and developers as many times important information like maps, locational data, and reports are missing from the submittals. Seeking remedy for delays created by these kinds of problems via an expedited review is not the answer. Instead, we encourage the committee to consider measures proposed this session like SB2440, SB2587, and HB2607, which are aimed at improving and guiding the submittal process would be a more effective means to address the problem.

For the above reasons, OHA respectfully requests that the Committees **DEFER** HB1928. Mahalo again for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



Celebrating 50 Years of Preserving Hawai'i's Places

680 Iwilei Road Suite 690, Honolulu HI 96817 • (808) 523-2900 • preservation@historichawaii.org • www.historichawaii.org

- **TO:** Representative Linda Ichiyama, Chair Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair Committee on Water and Land (WAL)
- **FROM:** Kiersten Faulkner, Executive Director Historic Hawai'i Foundation
- Committee: Tuesday, January 30, 2024 9:00 a.m. Via Video Conference and Conference Room 430

RE: HB 1928, Relating to Historic Preservation

On behalf of Historic Hawai'i Foundation (HHF), I am writing in **opposition for HB 1928.** The bill would require automatic approval or determinations on HRS §6E-8 (public projects) and §6E-10 (properties listed in the Hawai'i or National Registers of Historic Places) for submittals to the State Historic Preservation Division after 45 days of receipt.

Hawai'i State Law (HRS §6E-8 and §6E-10) requires that prior to issuing any permit or land use approval for any project that affects a historic property, state and local jurisdictions shall refer the matter to the State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) for review and comment. The statute allows 90 days for this review to take place. The bill would cut that time in half, to 45 days.

"Project" is defined in HRS §6E-2 as "any activity directly undertaken by the State or its political subdivisions or supported in whole or in part through appropriations, contracts, grants, subsidies, loans, or other forms of funding assistance from the State or its political subdivisions or involving any lease, permit, license, certificate, land use change, or other entitlement for use issued by the State or its political subdivisions."

The professional staff of the state historic preservation division labors under lack of funding, staffing vacancies, obsolete administrative rules, quirky standard operating procedures and haphazard support for the division, which makes it difficult for it to meet its mandates for high quality and timely review of projects. This leads to frustration by those seeking approvals, as well as by those whose priority is the protection of the state's historic and cultural resources.

Historic Hawai'i Foundation is a statewide nonprofit organization established in 1974 to encourage the preservation of historic buildings, sites, structures, objects and districts on all the islands of Hawai'i. As the statewide leader for historic preservation, HHF works to preserve Hawai'i's unique architectural and cultural heritage and believes that historic preservation is an important element in the present and future quality of life, environmental sustainability and economic viability of the state.

The bill attempts to address this impasse by setting a maximum number of days for SHPD to review projects, make determinations or provide approval. While the intent may be to provide greater timeliness and certainty to developers or project proponents, it will come at the expense of protections for historic sites and cultural resources. The absolute deadline on taking action could also lead to a quick denial of projects rather than a slower and more thoughtful approval, simply in an attempt to meet the deadlines. The state's historic and cultural resources should not be penalized by removing protections at the local or the state level.

In most development undertakings, there is a continuum of due diligence, planning, entitlements, design and construction. It is rare that all possible effects on historic properties are known at each stage of the development and design process. For example, the area of potential effect for historic sites is less defined at the time of a land use change or subdivision than it is at the time of construction. The certainty and specificity of SHPD's review is directly proportionate to the level of information provided to it, which can and does change as projects evolve.

For example, while SHPD may determine that no historic properties are affected by a simple change in entitlements, that same undertaking could very well have an effect at the time of site planning and construction. This is especially true when the historic properties are unknown (such as from sub-surface archeological sites or native Hawaiian burials), undocumented (such as cultural landscapes or traditional cultural properties), when the project takes many years from concept to execution (in which time structures may become eligible for the historic register by virtue of increasing age or significance), or when the scope and scale of the undertaking changes. It is also a rare development that does not change in its details from the time of concept, to schematic design, to design development, to construction. At any of these stages, a historic property that was not previously anticipated to be affected could become at risk. Therefore, an earlier determination of no adverse effect may not hold true when the undertaking becomes more specific and more information is provided, and vice versa.

The proposed solution to merely change the number of days allotted for reviews is simplistic and has the potential to have extreme adverse effects on historic properties. Rather than provide for automatic approvals after a short period of time, HHF recommends improvements to the review process itself, as promulgated in Hawai'i Administrative Rules.

From 2021-2022, HHF was part of SHPD's working group to address issues in the review process and revise the Rules. While this effort was aborted in 2022 without resolution or producing a draft for consideration, we maintain that it remains the appropriate vehicle for addressing these issues.

In particular, HHF recommended that amendments to HAR §13-275 and §13-284 should address:

1. **Establish a clear statement of the purpose and intent** of how the rules implement the purpose of HRS §6E, safeguard historic properties as a public trust and benefit, and the purpose and objective of the review of projects and resolution of effects. The overriding public policy should be to evaluate

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proposed changes not only for efficiency in processing, but also in effectiveness in protecting historic properties.

- 2. Establish uniformity of procedures, steps, submittal requirements and timeframes across all HRS §6E reviews, varied only as required by statute. The timeframes in the rules need to be consistent with the timeframes in the statute.
- 3. Ensure that the SHPD process is compatible with other review processes, especially National Historic Preservation Act §106, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Hawai'i Environmental Policy Act (HRS §343), Special Management Area permits, and so forth. To the extent possible, use consistent and common terminology and definitions. For example, Section 106 determinations of effect may include findings that no historic properties are present; historic properties are present but not affected, or historic properties are present and adversely affected. SHPD rules do not use the same definitions. Consistency would be an improvement, especially for projects that are required to comply with both state and federal laws. HHF has also observed that many proposed projects experience issues by delaying the 6E review until after they complete other environmental reviews, then are surprised by conflicts during the 6E review.
- 4. **Clarify and standardize the opportunities for public comment, consultation and engagement.** The rules currently identify participants in the historic preservation review process to include SHPD, the agency with jurisdiction, the person proposing the project and interested persons/organizations that are concerned with the effect of the project on historic properties. However, the procedures do not make it clear when and how each entity is able to engage in the process, how the participants will be informed about projects, access to relevant information, how to provide comments, or how the other parties will respond to comments.
- 5. Require an initial completeness check, standard formatting requirements, checklist of information and other standardized submittals (forms and attachments) for consistency and ease of review. SHPD should check for completeness immediately and not accept any submittal that is incomplete. SHPD should explain what is missing or incomplete when rejecting the submittal to allow for corrections in a timely way.
- 6. Track all permits by site identification (such as Tax May Key Number) and not just permit type. Once SHPD has determined whether or not a particular property is or is not historically significant or meets the criteria for listing on the Hawai'i Register of Historic Places, future permits may be routed accordingly. This would eliminate issues where agencies submit successive permit applications to SHPD for comment even after the State has determined that the property is not historic and has asked for no further review.
- 7. Determine a list of categorical exclusions that do not adversely affect historic properties and so do not require SHPD review. Types of projects that typically do not have the potential to cause adverse effects may be the basis of exemptions from historic preservation review.
- 8. Determine best preservation practices for common rehabilitation or repairs and provide a checklist that would apply to those items. If the applicant meets the basic standards, no further review would be needed. This would apply primarily to exterior alterations that have the potential to

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affect the character of the historic property. These would be based on national historic preservation standards and guidelines, either by reference or by including a specific section in the rules themselves.

- 9. Use Inventory and Survey projects to identify in advance those historic properties and districts that are most significant and should have specific protections or treatment. This type of inventory and historic district designation has been neglected for several decades, so the official list of historic properties underrepresents certain property types. An ongoing effort to conduct historic inventories, context studies and historic district designations would help remedy this issue and lead to affirmative planning for the State's historic sites.
- 10. Establish an expedited process for projects that are specifically intended for restoration/rehabilitation of a historic property. In instances where the intent is to preserve and restore following preservation standards should have priority over projects that are demolishing or destroying historic or cultural resources.
- 11. Establish a tracking, monitoring, reporting and completion procedure for implementation of agreements to avoid, minimize or mitigate adverse effects. Many projects include conditions or stipulations for siting, design, preservation areas or mitigation measures. It is important to ensure these conditions are followed and completed through the project implementation phases.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Historic Hawai'i Foundation is a statewide nonprofit organization established in 1974 to encourage the preservation of historic buildings, sites, structures, objects and districts on all the islands of Hawai'i. As the statewide leader for historic preservation, HHF works to preserve Hawai'i's unique architectural and cultural heritage and believes that historic preservation is an important element in the present and future quality of life, environmental sustainability and economic viability of the state.



January 30, 2024

Representative Linda Ichiyama, Chair Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair Committee on Water and Land

RE: HB 1928 - Relating to Historic Preservation Hearing date: January 30, 2024 at 9:00 AM

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony on behalf of NAIOP Hawaii in **SUPPORT WITH COMMENTS** on HB 1928. NAIOP Hawaii is the local chapter of the nation's leading organization for office, industrial, retail, residential and mixed-use real estate. NAIOP Hawaii has over 200 members in the State including local developers, owners, investors, asset managers, lenders and other professionals.

HB 1928 Requires the state historic preservation division to approve or make a determination within 45 days on a properly completed and submitted application for public and private work. Further the measure deems the application to be approved if state historic preservation division does not make a determination within 45 days. If the application is rejected, requires state historic preservation division to explain in writing.

NAIOP Hawaii supports: 1) the 45-day required review time; and 2) the deemed approved language which is intended to expedite the review process by SHPD. Currently, the backlog of historic reviews is encumbering permits throughout the state. Reviews by SHPD are significantly slowing down the permitting process, adding costs and delays to a substantial number of projects across the State. Consequently, much needed housing, economic development, and critical infrastructure projects often face significant delays in permit approvals and project implementation. These delays result in decreased economic and construction activity and delivery of housing units.

HB1928 will provide an abbreviated review process with an application being deemed approved if the project does not receive a determination by SHPD within the 45 days under this measure. This will allow much needed affordable housing and critical infrastructure project to continue to move forward for our residents.

To further the intent of this measure, NAIOP Hawaii would support an amendment to replace the language "on a completed and submitted" with "from submission of an" on Page 1, lines 6-7. This would allow the 45-review period to commence from submission of an application in order to expedite the timeline and prevent potential delaying for a completed application. Representative Linda Ichiyama, Chair Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair Committee on Water and Land January 30, 2024 Page 2

NAIOP Hawaii supports HB 1928 which addresses a critical issue in the development of more affordable housing and critical infrastructure for Hawaii residents. NAIOP appreciates the Legislature's commitment to collaborating on this issue and look forward to working together.

Mahalo for your consideration,

TZ

Reyn Tanaka, President NAIOP Hawaii

LATE *Testimony submitted late may not be considered by the Committee for decision making purposes.



SOCIETY FOR HAWAIIAN ARCHAEOLOGY

P.O. BOX 22458 HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96823

- TO: Representative Linda Ichiyama, Chair Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair Committee on Water and Land (WAL)
- FROM: Mara Mulrooney, Ph.D. President, Society for Hawaiian Archaeology membership@hawaiianarchaeology.org

| HEARING: | January 30, 2024, 9:00 AM, CR 325 & Videoconference |
|----------|--|
| SUBJECT: | Testimony in opposition of HB 1928, Relating to Historic Preservation |

I am Mara Mulrooney, President of the Society for Hawaiian Archaeology (SHA). We have over 150 members including professional archaeologists and advocates of historic preservation. On behalf of SHA, we **oppose** and offer comments on HB 1928.

The intent of HB 1928 is to expedite historic preservation review and require the State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) to make a determination within 45 days of project submittal. If SHPD does not make a determination within 45 days, the application would be approved.

SHPD currently does not have the staffing or funding to review all projects within 45 days. Many irreplaceable historic properties and burials could potentially be harmed by an automatic determination after 45 days, especially if the project has not undergone historic preservation review at all. We need to be mindful of the societal consequences of permitting ground-disturbing activities in culturally sensitive areas without adequate review by knowledgeable professionals and consultation with Native Hawaiian descendant communities, as applicable. The best, long-term solution is to fund more positions for the State Historic Preservation Division rather than rushing an already challenging process.

Should HB 1928 pass out of this committee, we request to be consulted as a stakeholder in future deliberations on an amended bill. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at the above email.

Mahalo for your consideration of our testimony.

https://hawaiianarchaeology.org/

The Society for Hawaiian Archaeology is a registered tax-exempt organization established in 1980 to promote and stimulate interest and research in the archaeology of the Hawaiian Islands, encourage a more rational public appreciation of the aims and limitations of archaeological research, serve as a bond among those interested in Hawaiian archaeology, both professionals and non-professionals, and aid in directing their efforts into more scientific channels as well as encourage the publication of their results, advocate and assist in the conservation of archaeological data, discourage unethical commercialism in the archaeological field and work for its elimination.



HAWAII STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND Conference Room 430 & Videoconference State Capitol 9:00 AM

January 30, 2024

Subject: HB 1928 - RELATING TO HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Chair Ichiyama, Vice-Chair Poepoe, and members of the Committee:

My name is Max Lindsey, Government Relations Committee Chair of the Building Industry Association of Hawaii (BIA-Hawaii). Chartered in 1955, the Building Industry Association of Hawaii is a professional trade organization affiliated with the National Association of Home Builders, representing the building industry and its associates. BIA-Hawaii takes a leadership role in unifying and promoting the interests of the industry to enhance the quality of life for the people of Hawaii. Our members build the communities we all call home.

HB 1928 proposes to require the state historic preservation division (SHPD) to approve or make a determination within forty-five days on a properly completed and submitted application for public and private work. It will also deem the application to be approved if SHPD does not make a determination within forty-five days. If the application is rejected, the bill requires SHPD to explain in writing.

Section 6E-42 HRS requires review by SHPD prior to any agency or officer of the State or its political subdivisions approves any project involving a permit (i.e. building permit), license, certificate, land use change, subdivision, or other entitlement for use, which may affect historic property, aviation artifacts, or a burial site, the agency or office shall advise the SHPD and prior to any approval allow the SHPD an opportunity for review and comment on the effect of the proposed project on historic properties, aviation artifacts, or burial sites.

We <u>strongly support</u> the need to set a hard deadline on SHPD's response time on submitted applications. Setting a forty-five (45) day time-limit on the amount of time SHPD has to comment on a project with automatic approval is a response from SHPD is not made within the 45 day time period would place a reasonable and necessary response time for SHPD's review. Currently, time delays waiting for SHPD's comments cause significant delays in construction, and also has resulted in projects losing financing or incurring higher interest rates.

We strongly support HB 1928 and appreciate the opportunity to provide our comments on this matter.

LATE *Testimony submitted late may not be considered by the Committee for decision making purposes.



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND

January 30, 2024 9:00 AM Conference Room 430

In OPPOSITION to HB1928: Relating to Historic Preservation

Aloha Chair Ichiyama, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Water & Land Committee,

On behalf of our 20,000 members and supporters, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i **OPPOSES HB1928**, which may significantly undermine the protection of historic cultural sites that serve as the foundation of our islands' cultural integrity as well as our potential future climate resilience.

Our Historic Preservation Law recognizes that "the historic and cultural heritage of the State is among its important assets and that the rapid social and economic developments of contemporary society threaten to destroy the remaining vestiges of this heritage." Accordingly, the law and its implementing regulations provide processes for consultation, agency review, and other actions that protect buildings, sites, and features considered "historic properties." These protections are particularly critical for historic Native Hawaiian sites and features, which serve as the physical and spiritual foundation for the restoration and perpetuation of Kānaka Maoli science, values, traditions, and knowledge. **Notably, this foundation may be critical to the restoration of systems of practice and perspective that enabled hundreds of thousands of people to once live sustainably and self-sufficiently on our islands – systems that remain our best chance at creating a resilient and hopeful future for ourselves and generations to come.**

Unfortunately, chronic staffing issues, a lack of staff and administrative capacity, inconsistent communication with other agencies, and similar challenges have severely undermined the State Historic Preservation Division's ("SHPD's") ability to administer our Historic Preservation Law. This in turn has both impacted development activities, and also led to the irreversible loss of iwi kūpuna and other historic cultural properties the law seeks to protect.

By simply requiring SHPD to cut their historic preservation review application processing time from 3 months to a mere 45 days, this measure would only exacerbate the institutional challenges that have led to the unwarranted and continued destruction of our islands' cultural heritage and integrity – and the potential foundation of a hopeful and resilient future. The Sierra Club respectfully suggests that greater investments in SHPD staff capacity and retention, and greater scrutiny of SHPD management practices and administrative efficiency, may much more effectively advance the goals of this measure. Accordingly, the Sierra Club respectfully urges the Committee to **HOLD** this measure. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify.

HB-1928 Submitted on: 1/29/2024 7:50:25 AM Testimony for WAL on 1/30/2024 9:00:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|--------------|--------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Tamara Luthy | Individual | Oppose | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

To the honorable Chair of Water and Land, Rep. Ichiyama, the honorable Vice Chair Poepoe, and the Water and Land Committee,

I am Dr. Tamara Luthy, an anthropologist and historic preservation professional working in Hawai'i.

The intent of HB 1928 is to expedite historic preservation review and require the State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) to make a determination within 45 days of project submittal. If SHPD does not make a determination within 45 days, the application would be approved.

Ideally, all submittals would receive a determination from SHPD within 45 days. As an employee at a cultural resources consulting firm, I am aware of the problems associated with delayed historic preservation reviews.

However, SHPD currently does not have the staffing or funding to review all projects within 45 days. Many irreplaceable burials and historic properties could potentially be harmed by an automatic determination after 45 days, especially if the project has not undergone historic preservation review at all. We need to be mindful of the societal consequences of permitting ground-disturbing activities in culturally sensitive areas without adequate review by knowledgeable professionals and consultation with Native Hawaiian descendant communities, as applicable. The best, long-term solution is to fund more positions for the State Historic Preservation Division rather than rushing an already challenging process.

Mahalo for your consideration of my testimony. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions.

Best,

Tamara Luthy

<u>HB-1928</u>

Submitted on: 1/29/2024 1:36:14 PM Testimony for WAL on 1/30/2024 9:00:00 AM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|--------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Keomailani Hanapi Hirata | Individual | Oppose | Remotely Via Zoom |

Comments:

Aloha 'aina kakou!

Mahalo to the Water and Land Committee for providing and facilitating this space for community engagement through public testimony.

My name is Keomailani Hanapi Hirata, a keiki o ka 'aina o Molokai and I am requesting to testify remotely via ZOOM in opposition of HB1928 relating to historic preservation.

Please email me the ZOOM link for me to participate and give my testimony remotely.

Email: kahenawai3@yahoo.com

Mahalo,

Keomailani Hanapi Hirata