

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

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



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

P.O. BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

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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 & LAND

Wednesday, February 2, 2023
9:30AM

State Capitol, Conference Room 430 Via Videoconference

In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 754
RELATING TO THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION

House Bill 754 proposes to appropriate \$800,000 for the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 for the digitization of the library of the State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) in the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department). **The Department supports this measure provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Budget request and offers comments.**

The Department appreciates the Legislature's past support for SHPD's efforts to digitize its library, archives, and decision records. The Department appreciates the Legislature's continuing support for digitization of SHPD's records. These records are essential to the protection of Hawaii's cultural heritage, and as tools for planners, consultants and SHPD staff to use in identifying known historic, archaeological, cultural, burials sites, and making reasonable decisions about how they can be considered in project planning. SHPD estimates that there are now over 4 million pages in SHPD files and library. About 40% have been digitized so far.

The Department has no amendments to recommend to this measure but notes that the appropriation amounts in House Bill 754 SECTION 2 add up to \$1.1 million, where SECTION 1 states that the appropriation is to be \$800,000.

The Department greatly appreciates the high level of funding suggested in this measure and recognizes that, if appropriated, final funding will be the result of the Legislature's review of an adoption of the Executive Branch budget. The Department notes that appropriation for this purpose that is much greater than \$200,000 per annum will be problematic for SHPD to manage with existing staff.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

HISTORIC HAWAII FOUNDATION

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: Thursday, February 2, 2023
9:30 a.m.
Via Video Conference and Conference Room 430

RE: HB 754, Relating to the State Historic Preservation Division

On behalf of Historic Hawai'i Foundation (HHF), I am writing with **support for HB 754**. The bill provides funds to the Historic Preservation Division of the Department of Land and Natural Resources for the digitization of the SHPD library and for additional operations.

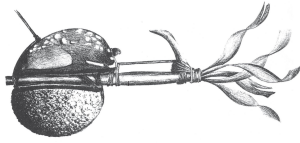
HHF encourages the digitization of historic preservation records through a project to digitize paper reports, maps, inventories, determinations and correspondence, and other materials.

The project is needed to make records available for both staff and public researchers. A comprehensive, digitally-based and integrated data management system will assist the department with more efficient management of its cases, provide better information and service to the public, support preservation projects, and assist the department to retain compliance with provisions of the federal historic preservation grant to the state.

HHF also supports efforts to ensure that the State has a robust, functional and well-resourced historic preservation program to meet the legislative intent in HRS 6E-1 that:

“It shall be the public policy of this State to provide leadership in preserving, restoring, and maintaining historic and cultural property, to ensure the administration of such historic and cultural property in a spirit of stewardship and trusteeship for future generations, and to conduct activities, plans, and programs in a manner consistent with the preservation and enhancement of historic and cultural property.”

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.



SOCIETY FOR HAWAIIAN ARCHAEOLOGY

P.O. BOX 22458 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96823

TO: Senator Linda Ichiyama, Chair
Senator Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair
Committee on Water and Land (WAL)

Senator Kyle Yamashita, Chair
Senator Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance (FIN)

FROM: Mara Mulrooney, Ph.D.
President, Society for Hawaiian Archaeology
membership@hawaiianarchaeology.org

HEARING: February 2, 2023, 9:30AM, Conference Room 430 & Videoconference

SUBJECT: Testimony regarding HB 754, Relating to the State Historic Preservation Division

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 support HB 754.**

The intent of HB 754 is to appropriate funds from the State of Hawai'i general revenues to increase the efforts towards the library digitization process and operations to be expended by the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD).

HB 754 would enable SHPD to improve the management of their vast holdings of archaeological reports, architectural studies, and related documents that are essential to our collective knowledge about Hawaii's past. Allocating funds toward digitization efforts will allow SHPD to potentially reduce storage costs and space; provide increased access to information; and efficiently track digitized resources to aid in the historic preservation review process and general operations of SHPD. The digitization of reports and documents held by the division provides a scalable solution for information management.

Should HB 754 pass out of this committee, we request to be consulted as a stakeholder in future deliberations on an amended bill. Please feel free to contact me at the above email if you have questions or would like to consult further with the Society for Hawaiian Archaeology.

Mahalo for the opportunity to comment.

<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.

HB-754

Submitted on: 1/31/2023 9:37:47 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/2/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kenneth R. Conklin, Ph.D.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support. Let's be sure that the digitized materials will include an index, and everything will be made available for download free of charge to the general public.

HB-754

Submitted on: 1/31/2023 4:34:03 PM

Testimony for WAL on 2/2/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Angus Raff-Tierney	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I STRONGLY SUPPORT HB 754. SHPD is severely underfunded and under resourced. The lack of a digital library along with other inadequacies slows down project planning and implementation throughout the state. It jeopardized the priceless cultural heritage when sites are missed. Through the HRS 6E process nearly all construction in hawaii has to be reviewed by the SHPD and without basic modernization methods like a digital library construction will continue to be hindered by slow responses.

HB-754

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:07:54 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/2/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rachel Hodara Nelson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Rachel Hodara Nelson and I am writing this testimony in **support** of HB754. I am a resident of Makawao, Maui, HI, and have been a practicing professional archeologist in Hawaii since 2013. I also grew up here on Maui in Makawao. I believe this bill is vitally important both to the professional field of archeology in Hawaii, as well as for the community at large, who currently does not have easy access to SHPD's library. The historical and cultural information in SHPD's library must be made accessible to Hawaii's people and professional archeologists in order to better protect Hawaii's cultural resources.

HB 754 would enable SHPD to improve the management of their vast holdings of archaeological reports, architectural studies, and related documents that are essential to our collective knowledge about Hawaii's past. Allocating funds toward digitization efforts will allow SHPD to potentially reduce storage costs and space; provide increased access to information; and efficiently track digitized resources to aid in the historic preservation review process and general operations of SHPD. The digitization of reports and documents held by the division provides a scalable solution for information management. Mahalo for the opportunity to comment on this bill.

HB-754

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:27:20 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/2/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rona Ikehara-Quebral	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I have worked in the Cultural Resources Management industry for over 30 years. I am submitting this testimony in **support** of HB754. HB 754 would enable SHPD to improve the management of their vast holdings of archaeological reports, architectural studies, and related documents that are essential to our collective knowledge about Hawaii's past. Allocating funds toward digitization efforts will allow SHPD to potentially reduce storage costs and space; provide increased access to information; and efficiently track digitized resources to aid in the historic preservation review process and general operations of SHPD. The digitization of reports and documents held by the division provides a scalable solution for information management. Mahalo for the opportunity to comment on this bill.

Thank you for considering this testimony.

Kind Regards,

Rona Ikehara-Quebral, Ph.D.

Manager & Senior Bioarchaeologist

International Archaeological Research Institute, Inc., Honolulu

HB-754

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 9:46:40 AM

Testimony for WAL on 2/2/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dore Minatodani	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing this testimony in support of HB754. HB 754 would enable SHPD to improve the management of their vast holdings of archaeological reports, architectural studies, and related documents that are essential to our collective knowledge about Hawaii's past. Allocating funds toward digitization efforts will allow SHPD to potentially reduce storage costs and space; provide increased access to information; and efficiently track digitized resources to aid in the historic preservation review process and general operations of SHPD. The digitization of reports and documents held by the division provides a scalable solution for information management. Mahalo for the opportunity to comment on this bill.

As a librarian working with Hawai'i materials, I have referred many students and researchers to the SHPD library. I can not overstate how valuable having the materials available online would be.

Thank you for considering my comments.