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

**SYLVIA LUKE**LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA





#### 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

CIARA W.K. KAHAHANE 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 Senate Committees on WATER AND LAND and AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Wednesday, February 12, 2025 1:05 PM State Capitol, Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

#### In consideration of SENATE BILL 150 RELATING TO RED HILL

Senate Bill 150 proposes to establish a Water Alliance Initiative (WAI) policy coordinator and other positions within the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to support the Red Hill WAI, and creates the Red Hill Remediation Special Fund. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) strongly supports this measure and provides comments.** 

As stewards of Honolulu's sole source groundwater aquifer and Hawai'i's ecosystems, the Department recognizes the WAI's important role in ensuring that post-defueling remediation efforts restore the mauka to makai health of the aquifer. Our precious aquifer not only provides drinking water to hundreds of thousands of Honolulu residents but is also critical for the environment under the stewardship of the Department.

The Department supports the establishment and use of the Red Hill Special Remediation Fund for monitoring, applied research, public outreach and education, and evaluation.

The Department notes that following the 2024 Session, three full-time positions to support the WAI were funded within the Department's Office of the Chairperson:

- Policy Coordinator
- Outreach Coordinator

### • Administrative Support Specialist

The Department completed its reorganization within the Office of the Chairperson and established the positions in late 2024. Currently, the Department is interviewing applicants for all three positions.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.

SYLVIA LUKE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM HAWAI'I EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND

TEOF HAN

LUIS P. SALAVERIA

SABRINA NASIR DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAI'I DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE Ka 'Oihana Mālama Mo'ohelu a Kālā

P.O. BOX 150 HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96810-0150 ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT

#### **WRITTEN ONLY**

TESTIMONY BY LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON WATER AND LAND
AND AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 150

February 12, 2025 1:05 p.m. Room 229 and Videoconference

#### RELATING TO RED HILL

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) offers comments on this bill.

Senate Bill (S.B.) No. 150 adds a new chapter that: 1) establishes the Red Hill Water Alliance Initiative (WAI) Policy Coordinator within the Department of Land and Natural Resources to coordinate WAI initiatives; 2) creates the Red Hill Remediation Special Fund (RHRSF) that would generate revenues through legislative appropriations, gifts, donations, grants, and interest to address contamination resulting from the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility; 3) requires State and county agencies to provide all information and data requested by the WAI Policy Coordinator within 30 calendar days; and 4) specifies annual reporting requirements.

As a matter of general policy, B&F does not support the creation of any special fund, which does not meet the requirements of Section 37-52.3, HRS. Special funds should: 1) serve a need as demonstrated by the purpose, scope of work and an explanation why the program cannot be implemented successfully under the general fund appropriation process; 2) reflect a clear nexus between the benefits sought and

charges made upon the users or beneficiaries or a clear link between the program and the sources of revenue; 3) provide an appropriate means of financing for the program or activity; and 4) demonstrate the capacity to be financially self-sustaining. Regarding S.B. No. 150, it is difficult to determine whether the proposed RHRSF would be self-sustaining as there does not appear to be any significant, recurring source of revenues to support the fund.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

## BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY KA 'OIHANA WAI

#### CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

630 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET • HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96843 Phone: (808) 748-5000 • www.boardofwatersupply.com

RICK BLANGIARDI MAYOR *MEIA* 

ERNEST Y. W. LAU, P.E. MANAGER AND CHIEF ENGINEER MANAKIA A ME KAHU WILIKĪ

ERWIN KAWATA DEPUTY MANAGER HOPE MANAKIA



February 12, 2025

NĀ'ĀLEHU ANTHONY, Chair JONATHAN KANESHIRO, Vice Chair BRYAN P. ANDAYA LANCE WILHELM KĒHAULANI PU'U EDWIN H. SNIFFEN, Ex-Officio GENE C. ALBANO, P.E., Ex-Officio

The Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair and Members Senate Committee on Water and Land Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 229 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Chair and Members Committee on Agriculture and Environment Hawai'i State Capitol, Room 016 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Chair Inouye, Chair Gabbard and Members:

SUBJECT: Senate Bill 150: Relating to Red Hill

The Honolulu Board of Water Supply (BWS) is in strong support of Senate Bill (SB) 150. The purpose of the bill is to create a new chapter in Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) to establish within the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to serve as the State's policy lead through the position of the Red Hill Water Alliance Initiative (WAI) policy coordinator and to place the coordinator in the office of the DLNR chairperson. The WAI coordinator shall facilitate implementation, monitoring and interface with federal entities on WAI initiatives outlined in the WAI's November 2023 report among other responsibilities.

It is important that we look at establishing government structures that can help to oversee remediation in the long term as this effort can extend well into the future This bill also establishes a special fund to be administered by the WAI coordinator and be able to receive federal funds, appropriations by the Legislature, or gifts, donations, grants from public agencies, and private persons.

The WAI policy coordinator proposed in SB 150, is required to facilitate implementation and monitoring and interface with federal entities on WAI initiatives outlined in the WAI's November 2023 report, which includes remediation needs after the defueling of the tanks and removal of residual fuel and contaminants from

The Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair The Honorable Mike Gabbard and Members February 12, 2025 Page 2

the Red Hill Fuel Facility. Here the duties of the coordinator will serve to provide a framework that gives the officials from the State and City and County of Honolulu a clear understanding of the WAI Initiatives, its mission, expectations, objectives, and reporting requirements.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support SB 150.

Very truly yours,

ERNEST Y. W. LAU, P.E. Manager and Chief Engineer

Submitted on: 2/10/2025 7:09:26 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2025 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
M. Healani Sonoda-Pale	Testifying for Ka Lahui Hawai?i	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

#### Comments:

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB150
THE THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, REGULAR SESSION OF 2025
COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND & COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Wednesday, February 12, 2025 | 1:05 PM | Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

#### TO:

Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair Senator Brandon J.C. Elefante, Vice Chair Committee on Water and Land

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair Senator Herbert M. "Tim" Richards, III, Vice Chair Committee on Agriculture and Environment

#### FROM:

Ka Lāhui Hawai'i

**SUBJECT: STRONG SUPPORT** FOR SB150 – Relating to Red Hill

Aloha e nā Luna Ho'omalu Inouye lāua 'o Gabbard, nā Hope Luna Ho'omalu Elefante lāua 'o Richards, a me nā Lālā o nā Kōmike,

Ka Lāhui Hawai'i submits this testimony in **strong support** of **SB150**, which takes necessary steps to ensure the **protection and restoration of O'ahu's primary water source** following the contamination from the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility.

### The Importance of Protecting Ka Wai Ola – The Water of Life

For generations, Native Hawaiians have understood wai (water) as the foundation of life, health, and well-being. The contamination of the sole-source aquifer on O'ahu poses a serious threat not only to our environment but also to the health and security of all who call this place home. Protecting our wai is a responsibility we all share, and urgent action is needed to ensure that future generations have access to clean and safe drinking water.

#### Why SB150 is Essential

This bill provides a **proactive and coordinated response** to the Red Hill crisis by:

- 1. **Establishing a Red Hill WAI Policy Coordinator** to oversee remediation efforts and ensure **effective collaboration** among state, county, and federal agencies.
- 2. Creating the Red Hill Remediation Special Fund to support long-term monitoring, research, and community education while ensuring that remediation costs are borne by those responsible.
- 3. Requiring timely cooperation from state and county agencies, ensuring transparency and accountability in addressing contamination concerns.
- 4. **Developing a public-facing water quality dashboard**, keeping communities informed about the status of our drinking water and ongoing remediation efforts.

#### A Call for Unity and Action

SB150 is an important step toward ensuring that **Hawai'i remains a place where fresh, clean** water is available to all. As caretakers of this 'āina, it is our shared kuleana to protect our water resources for future generations. By passing SB150, the Legislature affirms its commitment to this responsibility and takes an active role in the restoration and stewardship of O'ahu's water supply.

#### Conclusion

Ka Lāhui Hawai'i respectfully urges the committees to **pass SB150** and ensure that the necessary resources and leadership are in place to safeguard our wai for generations to come. **Water is life—let us work together to protect it.** 

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Me ka ha'aha'a, Ka Lāhui Hawai'i

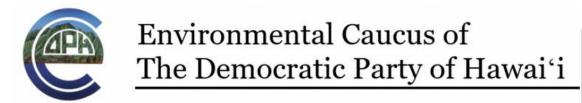
<u>SB-150</u> Submitted on: 2/8/2025 9:43:25 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2025 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Janice K Toma Shiira	Testifying for Shimanchu Wai Protectors	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We support SB150



#### **February 9, 2025**

#### Testimony in Support of SB150: Relating to Red Hill

**To:** Chairs Lorraine R. Inouye and Mike Gabbard, Vice Chairs Brandon J.C. Elefante and Herbert M. "Tim" Richards, III, and Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land and Senate Committee on Agriculture and Environment

From: The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii

Date: Wednesday, February 12, 2025, 1:05 p.m.

Place: Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

Subject: Support for SB150 - Red Hill Water Alliance Initiative (WAI) Report

#### **Initial Statement:**

## Aloha, Chairs Inouye and Gabbard, Vice Chairs Elefante and Richards, and Members of the Committees:

The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii, representing over 7,500 members, strongly supports SB150, which aims to address the critical issues identified in the Red Hill Water Alliance Initiative (WAI) Report. The report highlights the urgent need for comprehensive remediation efforts at the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility to protect our precious water resources and public health.

SB150 proposes the establishment of a Red Hill WAI Policy Coordinator to oversee and coordinate the Red Hill WAI initiatives. Additionally, it calls for the creation of the Red Hill Remediation Special Fund to ensure adequate resources for remediation efforts.

#### **Key Points:**

- 1. **Red Hill WAI Policy Coordinator:** The bill establishes a Red Hill WAI Policy Coordinator to oversee the coordination of the Red Hill WAI initiatives. This role is crucial for effective management and implementation of the remediation efforts.
- 2. **Red Hill Remediation Special Fund:** SB150 creates the Red Hill Remediation Special Fund to provide necessary resources for the remediation and protection of water resources. This fund is essential for ensuring the success of the remediation initiatives.
- 3. **Protection of Water Resources:** The Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility poses a significant risk to Oahu's primary drinking water source. The contamination threats

- highlighted in the WAI Report underscore the necessity of immediate action to prevent further pollution of our aquifer.
- 4. **Public Health:** Leaks and spills from the Red Hill facility have already caused concerns about potential health impacts on the residents of Oahu. By implementing the recommendations of the WAI Report, SB150 will ensure the safety and well-being of our communities.
- 5. **Environmental Responsibility:** Hawaii's unique ecosystems are vulnerable to contamination from hazardous substances. SB150 promotes responsible environmental stewardship by prioritizing the remediation and protection of our natural resources.
- 6. **Transparency and Accountability:** The establishment of a WAI Policy Coordinator will ensure transparency and accountability in the implementation of remediation efforts. This role will provide oversight and coordination to ensure that the goals of the WAI Report are met efficiently and effectively.
- 7. **Sustainable Future:** By addressing the issues at the Red Hill facility, SB150 lays the groundwork for a sustainable future for Hawaii. Protecting our water resources today ensures that future generations can enjoy clean and safe drinking water.

#### **Arguments in Support:**

- 1. **Comprehensive Approach:** SB150 offers a comprehensive approach to addressing the critical issues highlighted in the Red Hill WAI Report. By implementing the recommendations, the bill ensures that all aspects of the contamination threat are addressed, from immediate remediation to long-term monitoring and prevention.
- Community Trust: The establishment of a WAI Policy Coordinator fosters community
  trust by ensuring that remediation efforts are transparent, accountable, and effectively
  managed. This role is essential for maintaining public confidence in the remediation
  process.
- 3. **Preventive Measures:** SB150 emphasizes preventive measures to avoid future contamination incidents. By proactively addressing potential threats and implementing best practices, the bill minimizes the risk of future environmental and public health crises.
- 4. **Economic Benefits:** Investing in the remediation of the Red Hill facility will have long-term economic benefits for Hawaii. A clean and safe environment attracts tourism, supports local businesses, and reduces healthcare costs associated with contamination-related illnesses.
- 5. **Environmental Justice:** SB150 promotes environmental justice by ensuring that all communities, particularly those disproportionately affected by environmental hazards, benefit from clean and safe water resources. This bill supports equitable access to clean water for all residents of Hawaii.

We urge the committees to pass SB150 and take a significant step towards addressing the environmental and public health concerns raised in the Red Hill WAI Report. This legislation is crucial for protecting our water resources, ensuring public health, and promoting environmental responsibility.

Thank you for considering our testimony.

#### Mahalo nui loa,

Melodie Aduja and Alan Burdick Co-chairs, Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii



## SENATE COMMITTEES ON WATER AND LAND and AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

#### **FEBRUARY 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2025**

#### **SB 150, RELATING TO RED HILL**

**POSITION: SUPPORT** 

Coalition Earth <u>supports</u> SB 150, which establishes a WAI Policy Coordinator for coordination of Red Hill WAI initiatives and creates the Red Hill Remediation Special Fund.

Ola i ka wai. Water is life.

The United States Navy's Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility consists of 20 steel-lined underground storage tanks that were built from 1940 to 1943, each of which can store 12.5 million gallons of fuel. In total, the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility can store up to 250 million gallons of fuel. The tanks are located only about 100 feet above the United States Environmental Protection Agency's designated sole-source groundwater aquifer that provides drinking water to approximately 4,000 residents of the island of O'ahu.

Over the past eighty years, numerous spills have occurred at Red Hill. Most dramatically, on November 20, 2021, about 93,000 individuals served by the Navy's potable water system for Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam were directly affected when the Navy's Red Hill shaft was contaminated by the release of up to 19,000 gallons of fuel, including JP-5 jet fuel, older fuels stored at the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility, and any additives used. Over 6,000 individuals sought medical attention, and 1,000 were forced to leave their homes due to the contamination. Much of the fuel released from the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility remains in the environment, trapped within the complex geological formations that surround the tanks. Notably, this leak also caused the restriction and diversion of Honolulu's water sources to cover losses from contaminated fuel, temporarily endangering the ability of the state and the county to perform vital public services, such as increasing the supply of affordable housing.

Subsequently, On May 9, 2023, officials from the state and City and County of Honolulu signed a unified statement on Red Hill, recognizing the stewardship responsibility to ensure that there is clean water on Oahu for future generations. The Red Hill Water Alliance Initiative (WAI), a working group, met regularly in 2023 after the signing of the unified statement, posing questions, conducting research, listening to subject-matter experts, and formulating policy recommendations to address the Red Hill contamination and prevent future leaks. The working group strived to preserve and protect public trust resources, including water resources that are essential for life to flourish in our island home.

Members of the Red Hill WAI working group focused on the remediation needs after the defueling of the tanks and removal of residual fuel and contaminants from the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility. The working group expressed ongoing concerns about fuel contaminants already in the ground, as well as the residual supply of fuel plume in local aquifers because of the spill that occurred on November 20, 2021. The group found that there may be as many as 1,940,000 gallons of fuel constituents in the ground that have leaked over eight decades.

Accordingly, the group believes that remediation is necessary for the future well-being of the aquifer to contain the risk to current and future water sources, including the Halawa Shaft, Halawa wells, and Aiea wells; the water distribution system; and local ecosystems. For the sake of the public trust and future generations of Hawai'i's people, we must adopt the recommendations of the Red Hill WAI working group, coordinate an ongoing multiagency response to the crisis, and empower remediation efforts to proceed with haste.

Coalition Earth is a nongovernmental organization that works to preserve the well-being of people and our planet. We champion policies that advance climate resilience, clean energy, public health, and economic fairness for working families. Contact us at info@coalitionearth.org.

Submitted on: 2/10/2025 4:40:29 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2025 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Ian Keali?i Custino	Testifying for Moanalua Gardens Foundation, Inc. dba MGF Hawai?i	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony of

Moanalua Gardens Foundation, Inc.

Before the Senate Committees On

WATER AND LAND

&

AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Wednesday, February 12, 2025

1:05 PM

Hawai'i State Captiol, CR 229

In Consideration of

SENATE BILL 150

RELATING TO RED HILL

The Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair

The Honorable Brandon J.C. Elfante, Vice Chair

Members of the Committee on Water and Land

The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Chair

The Honorable Herbert M. "Tim" Richards, III, Vice Chair

Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Environment

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Joint Committee,

Moanalua Gardens Foundation, Inc. Dba MGF Hawai'i strongly supports Senate Bill 150 which establishes a WAI Policy Coordinator for Red Hill WAI initiatives and creates the Red Hill Remediation Special Fund.

The Moanlua Gardens Foundation was founded in 1970 to, among other things, protect our precious 'āina (land). As Aloha 'Āina (protectors of our natural resources) this is the most important kuleana (responsibility) we have, and it is the main reason we exist. The protection of our precious wai (water) is inextricably tied to our health, wealth, and well-being as Kanaka 'Ōiwi (the indigenous people of Hawai'i) and affects all residents of and visitors to Hawai'i.

Passing Senate Bill 150 is key to ensuring that we continue to prioritize the health and well-being of Hawai'i's people by addressing the following:

- Hawai'i's people cannot thrive without clean water. The 2021 Red Hill fuel spill
  contaminated O'ahu's primary drinking water source, and groundwater remains
  contaminated.
- Millions of gallons of fuel have leaked over 80 years, and groundwater remains contaminated.
- More than 6,000 people needed medical care due to the leak's toxic effects, and groundwater remains contaminated.
- We must hold the Navy and Federal Government accountable for continued transgressions especially when it harms our residents and groundwater remains contaminated.
- We urgently need the Water Alliance Initiative this bill establishes to address long-term transparency, action, AND the fact that groundwater remains contaminated!

MGF Hawai'i respectfully urges this committee to pass SB 150 establishing a Policy Coordinator for Red Hill WAI initiatives and the Red Hill Remediation Special Fund. This is vital for the well-being of Hawai'i's people, and the long-term sustainability of clean water for Hawai'i.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Ian Keali'i Custino, ABD

**Executive Director** 

MGF Hawai'i

Date: February 11, 2025

From: Rev. Amy Chieko Wake, Acts of Repentance Task Force Chair, Hawai'i District

**United Methodist Church** 

#### Senate Bill 150: In support

We are in strong support of SB 150, which establishes a WAI Policy Coordinator for coordination of Red Hill WAI initiatives and creates the Red Hill Remediation Special Fund. The measures included in SB 150 align with the values of the United Methodist Church regarding social and environmental justice.

"Be fair-minded and just. Do what is right! Help those who have been robbed." Jeremiah 22:3

On April 29, 2024, the United Methodist Church General Conference approved a formal apology for the part played by our denomination in the illegal overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii in 1893. Specifically, Rev Harcourt W. Peck, who became a pastor of the First Methodist Episcopal Church in Honolulu, was one of the riflemen and aide to the commander of the illegal overthrow.

This official apology is not an ending, but a beginning. The next step is to continue to build relationships with Hawaiians and listen to them so they can guide us on how to make this apology meaningful beyond words into action, advocacy and ally-ship. One such relevant and timely opportunity to advocate with  $k\bar{a}$ naka maoli on issues of water safety and protecting this precious resource for generations to come.

"In the past, God didn't judge people for what they didn't know. But now he commands all people everywhere to turn away from their sins." Acts 17:30

We cannot change the past, but we can change the present and inform the future. We are not the people we were 65 years ago; we have more knowledge and more understanding, and realize there is a difference between "dominion" over the land meaning stewardship and creation care verses and "domination" interpreted as extractive and exploitive actions against the 'aina. The United Methodist Book of Discipline, our governing document, ¶160 states, "All creation is the Lord's, and we are responsible for the ways in which we use and abuse it. Water, air, soil, minerals, energy resources, plants, animal life and space are to be valued and conserved because they are God's creation and not solely because they are useful to human beings."

Mahalo for reading our testimony.

Submitted on: 2/10/2025 11:12:50 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2025 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
'Ilima DeCosta	Individual	Support	In Person

#### Comments:

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB150, which would finally acknowledge the harms caused to many water users as a result of the Navy's contamination of the water aquifer at Red Hill, Kapukaki.

Individuals and families - including infants - have suffered long term injuries as a result of their trust for their water supply, and the Navy breached that trust when they failed to take adequate actions to address the initial spills or protect against future spills.

As we have learned from the OIG report, these injuries are most likely due to hubris on the part of those in Navy leadership. It is because of the failure to timely and properly provide for those harmed as a result of the Navy's negligence that legislative actions are necessary.

The time to act to protect those harmed is now and I urge the committee to pass this measure on for a full hearing. Mahalo

Submitted on: 2/10/2025 8:39:29 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2025 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Jamie Simic	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

#### Comments:

Defending Sacred Water: Protects Oahu's sole-source aquifer, the lifeblood of the community, from further contamination and harm.

Accountability for Generations: Ensures that the Navy and government fulfill their responsibility to restore and protect our water for future generations

Healing the Land: Addresses decades of contamination by cleaning up 1.94 million gallons of leaked fuel,safeguarding ecosystems and public health,

Transparency and Action: Establishes leadership for community-centered solutions, public education, and transparent progress reporting,

Empowering Our Future: Creates resources to monitor and rehabilitate water systems, prioritizing the health of the people and the environment.

United Stewardship: Calls for federal, state, and community collaboration to honor and protect water as a sacred trust and prevent future disasters

Submitted on: 2/7/2025 6:23:30 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2025 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Jacob Wiencek	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

Aloha Committee Members,

Resolving the Red Hill water crisis remains a key challenge for our state. I believe this bill gets us moving in the right direction. I urge this Committee to SUPPORT this bill!

<u>SB-150</u> Submitted on: 2/7/2025 6:44:55 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2025 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
B.A. McClintock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

Please support this important bill. Mahalo.

Submitted on: 2/8/2025 9:37:47 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2025 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Hina Kneubuhl	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

The spill of fuel that has contaminated the 'āina and which the Navy has grossly mishandled MUST be cleaned up properly. O'ahu residents (as all peoples) have a right to clean water. This is the most basic of rights that our government cannot fail to provide. If it does, it is woefully unqualified to be in a position of power over citizens who can see this issue clearly and all know what the right thing to do is: assure the cleanup is done to the highest standard and prevent the storage of any further on the island. mahalo,

Hina Kneubuhl

Submitted on: 2/8/2025 2:02:17 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2025 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
cheryl burghardt	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I SUPPORT STRONGLY SB 150 whichestablishes a WAI Policy Coordinator for coordination of Red Hill WAI initiatives. Creates the Red Hill Remediation Special Fund.

Understanding and learning about the poisoning of our water at RED HILL has been an eyeopener which continues to keep us all on alert! Our wai is the most precious thing we have on
our islands and losing it will be the end of life as we know it here. For those directly involved as
well as regular citizens of our islands it has been a challenge to keepup with all the initiatives and
efforts that are currently or have been enacted, tried, to protect our water in light of RED
HILL. It is imperative that we have a better coordination of everything that is happening to
ensure the best possible solutions for our islands and the funds to implement and carry them out.

C. Burghardt

Kou, Oahu

<u>SB-150</u> Submitted on: 2/8/2025 2:25:52 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2025 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Kai Nishiki	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support.

Submitted on: 2/8/2025 8:11:56 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2025 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Sarah Barientos	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

Clean water is non-negotiable, and absolutely no substitution and the time for action is now!For over 80 years, millions of gallons of fuel have leaked from Red Hill, poisoning our groundwater and putting the health of Oahu's residents at risk. This toxic legacy must end. Contamination remains beneath our feet, and every moment of inaction increases the danger.

SB 150 provides the urgent response Hawaii needs. It prioritizes full remediation, long-term water protection, and accountability for those responsible. This bill ensures transparency, continuous monitoring, and public engagement—because the people of Hawaii deserve to know their water is safe. Lawmakers you need to ensure that our water is safe.

Lawmakers have a clear choice: protect the health and future of our communities or allow this crisis to continue. SB 150 must pass without hesitation. The people of Hawaii are counting on you.

Submitted on: 2/8/2025 10:06:26 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2025 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Valerie Clack	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

Please support this bill and act now to clean our water - clean water is not negotiable. This bill prioritizes remdiation of past fuel spills and long-term solutions to prevent future disasters that impact our groundwater. This bill promotes overall public health for Hawaii and holds polluters accountable by continuing clean-up efforts while placing the burden of cost on those responsible. This bill also establishes a water alliance initiative to increase transparency and accountability hand in hand with action through evidence-based solutions.

<u>SB-150</u> Submitted on: 2/8/2025 11:37:45 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2025 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Isis Usborne	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e,

I strongly support this bill!

Mahalo,

Isis Usborne (96815)

<u>SB-150</u> Submitted on: 2/9/2025 10:24:33 AM Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2025 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Regina Gregory	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

support

Submitted on: 2/9/2025 11:04:59 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2025 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Kanoelehua Hook	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

In Support of SB150: Ensuring the Safe Remediation of Red Hill

I strongly support SB150, which establishes a WAI Policy Coordinator to oversee the remediation efforts at Red Hill and creates the Red Hill Remediation Special Fund to ensure long-term environmental and public health protection. Given the ongoing threat posed by fuel contamination from the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility, this bill is a crucial step in protecting Oahu's drinking water, restoring public trust, and ensuring accountability in the remediation process.

Why SB150 Is Essential

1. Protecting Hawai'i's Drinking Water

The Red Hill facility sits just 100 feet above Oahu's sole-source aquifer, which provides drinking water for 400,000 residents.

Massive fuel leaks over the past 80 years most notably the November 2021 spill of 19,000 gallons of fuel have contaminated the water supply, causing severe health effects and displacing families.

SB150 ensures ongoing monitoring and proactive remediation efforts to prevent further contamination.

2. Holding the Federal Government Accountable for Cleanup

The Red Hill Water Alliance Initiative (WAI) has identified up to 1.94 million gallons of fuel still present in the environment.

While the federal government is responsible for remediation, SB150 ensures that state and local agencies remain involved, informed, and proactive in holding them accountable.

The bill creates a designated fund to support state-led efforts like water testing, public education, and independent research.

3. Ensuring Transparency and Public Engagement

SB150 requires the WAI Policy Coordinator to establish a public-facing dashboard for test results and remediation updates.

This transparency is critical for rebuilding public trust after years of misinformation and delays in addressing the crisis.

A 36-month public information campaign will keep residents informed about remediation progress and safety measures.

4. Strengthening Collaboration Among State and County Agencies

The bill mandates all state and county agencies to provide necessary data within 30 days, ensuring that decision-making is based on the most up-to-date science and research.

This prevents bureaucratic delays and allows for swift, coordinated action.

#### Conclusion

SB150 is a critical step toward protecting Hawai'i's water, holding polluters accountable, and ensuring long-term environmental health. By establishing a policy lead for Red Hill remediation and creating a dedicated funding source, this bill prioritizes the well-being of Oahu's residents and ecosystems.

I strongly urge lawmakers to pass SB150 to ensure that Red Hill's contamination is addressed swiftly, transparently, and effectively.

<u>SB-150</u> Submitted on: 2/9/2025 11:44:40 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2025 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Faith Kahale Saito	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

Aloha! I support this bill and initiative.

Submitted on: 2/9/2025 12:05:26 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2025 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Kailana Moa-eli	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

<sup>&</sup>quot;Aloha, I'm Kailana Moa-Eli. I support SB150. Please do the right thing and take responsibility for your actions. When our resources are impacted, the ripple effect is felt throughout our homeland, and we can feel the mana beneath our feet."

Submitted on: 2/9/2025 12:09:59 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2025 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Noel Shaw	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

Investments that truly protect our water and follow through on the work of getting it done are crucial to our ability to make Oahu a viable place to live. Reinstitutionalizing the care of our water ad being a vital part of what it means to lead here in Hawaii is a must! Clean water is a nonnegotiable and those who've already caused harm and continue to threaten it must be held accountable. At the same time, the public needs to be informed and educated of the happenings around how current issues impact or could impact them so they are able to mobilize and change life styles in needed. Please pass this bill and create a venue for Red Hill work to continue and be supported.

Submitted on: 2/9/2025 2:44:32 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2025 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Mai Hall	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

As a Kanaka Oiwi and impacted family member of Red Hill, I support initiatives to clean water for our lands. Clean water is non negotiable. We need to protect our wai, our water for us and future generations. We are an island community who depends on the finite resources of water. Please protect us. Mahalo

Submitted on: 2/9/2025 2:46:00 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2025 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Stacey Alapai	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

#### Comments:

Please support SB150. Clean water is non-negotiable and we need to hold polluters accountable in order to protect public health and end the toxic legacy of fuel leaks and water contamination.

Ola I ka wai!

<u>SB-150</u> Submitted on: 2/9/2025 5:10:39 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2025 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Kumelewaioluopaliuli Tiogangco	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

# Comments:

Please support this bill SB 150. Without clean water we don't have life. This is so important for future generations. Mahalo.

Submitted on: 2/9/2025 6:13:39 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2025 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Dianne Deauna	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

## Comments:

I am submitting this testimony in FULL SUPPORT of SB150. I ask that the Snate Committee on Water and Land / Agriculture and Environment pass this measure and uphold the following principles:

# 1. Clean water is non-negotiable

The 2021 Red Hill fuel spill contaminated Oahu's primary drinking water source, affecting 93,000+ residents and forcing over 1,000 people to evacuate their homes. The damage is ongoing, and we must act NOW.

# 2. Red Hill's toxic legacy must end

With millions of gallons of fuel leaked over 80 years, contamination remains in the groundwater. This bill prioritizes remediation and long-term solutions to prevent future disasters

## 3. Protect Public Health

Over 6,000 people sought medical attention due to the fuel leak's toxic effects. This bill ensures monitoring, research, and public outreach to safeguard our communities

# 4. Hold polluters accountable

The bill creates the Red Hill Remediation Special Fund to ensure clean-up efforts continue, while pushing the federal government to take full responsibility for remediation costs.

## 5. Transparency & Action

This bill establishes a Red Hill Water Alliance Initiative to monitor, report, and engage with the public, ensuring accountability and science-driven solutions

Submitted on: 2/9/2025 10:46:56 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2025 1:05:00 PM

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

## Comments:

My name is Cassandra Werner and I support SB150, Establishes a WAI Policy Coordinator for coordination of Red Hill WAI initiatives. Creates the Red Hill Remediation Special Fund. This is an ongoing crime to Hawai'i and the natural resources. Do what your heart knows is right and address the situation with well organized leadership and community involvement. There is no life without WAI, save what we have left and build a team to make changes that will allow Hawai'i to thrive! Mahalo.

<u>SB-150</u> Submitted on: 2/10/2025 6:39:03 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2025 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Cardenas Pintor	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I support this bill.

Mahalo nui,

Cardenas (Cards) Pintor

<u>SB-150</u> Submitted on: 2/10/2025 10:18:08 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2025 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Expedita Pasion	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly oppose SB150

Submitted on: 2/10/2025 10:38:09 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2025 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Sierra Dew	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

## Comments:

# **Dear Committee Members,**

I am writing in strong support of SB150.

As a current O'ahu resident, I believe that access to clean water is non-negotiable. The 2021 Red Hill fuel spill was a catastrophe that contaminated O'ahu's primary drinking water source, affecting 93,000 residents and forcing over 1,000 people to evacuate their homes. The damage is ongoing, and the toxic legacy of U.S. military fuel leaks must end.

Over the past **80 years, millions of gallons of fuel have leaked** from Red Hill, leaving contamination in our groundwater. **More than 6,000 people sought medical attention** due to exposure to the fuel's toxic effects. **SB 150 is essential** because it prioritizes long-term remediation, ongoing monitoring, research, and public outreach to safeguard our communities.

Additionally, this bill creates the **Red Hill Remediation Special Fund** to ensure that clean-up efforts continue while holding the federal government accountable for covering the full costs of remediation.

I urge you to pass SB 150 to protect the health, safety, and future of O'ahu's residents.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely, Sierra Dew

Submitted on: 2/10/2025 11:11:30 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2025 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Rosalie Luo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

## Comments:

Aloha Chairs Inouye and Gabbard, Vice-Chairs Elefante and Richards, and Members of the Committees on Water & Land and Agriculture & Environment,

My name is Rosalie Luo and I STRONGLY SUPPORT SB150, which establishes a Red Hill Water Alliance Initiative (WAI) Policy Coordinator and creates the Red Hill Remediation Special Fund to coordinate critical remediation efforts following the defueling of the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility.

The contamination caused by the November 2021 fuel spill at the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility remains an urgent public health and environmental crisis. Up to 19,000 gallons of jet fuel and other hazardous substances entered the aquifer that serves as a primary drinking water source for nearly 400,000 residents on Oʻahu. With more than 1,940,000 gallons of fuel estimated to have leaked or spilled over the facility's 80-year history, the scope and complexity of remediation require long-term, coordinated action across multiple agencies.

SB150 directly addresses this by creating a WAI Policy Coordinator position within the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR). This role is critical for ensuring that state and county efforts are aligned, federal coordination is streamlined, and the recommendations from the Red Hill Water Alliance Initiative's 2023 public report are implemented without delay. The coordinator will oversee key activities, including:

- Facilitating implementation and monitoring of remediation efforts and engaging with federal agencies.
- Reviewing and reporting on ecosystem health and science-based remediation opportunities on a regular basis.
- Developing a public-facing test results dashboard to ensure transparency and build public trust.
- Coordinating a 36-month public information campaign to educate the community about the remediation process and its impact on public health and the environment.

In addition, the Red Hill Remediation Special Fund provides essential financial support for these efforts by funding monitoring, applied research, public education, and evaluation. This ensures that the State can respond effectively to ongoing environmental risks and health concerns, while the cost of full remediation of the aquifer remains the responsibility of the federal government.

Transparency and public engagement are crucial for restoring trust in the government's ability to manage this crisis. The test results dashboard and public education campaign outlined in SB150 are key tools for involving the community and addressing fears about long-term contamination and its effects on drinking water, ecosystems, and human health.

The stakes could not be higher: clean water is not only a resource but a public trust protected by the Hawai'i State Constitution. SB150 builds the necessary framework for long-term stewardship and coordinated action to protect our aquifer and environment for future generations.

I urge you to PASS SB150 without delay.

Mahalo for your leadership and commitment to Hawai'i's future.

Sincerely, Rosalie Luo

Submitted on: 2/10/2025 1:40:45 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2025 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Lana Albright	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

## Comments:

Aloha, I am writing in support of bill SB150

Clean water is a NEED not want. We have to do everything to protect communities and people; we are nothing without our health and wellness.

Business can't happen if people are being poisoned and when this happened/happens parties involved need to be held accountable.

Red Hill fuel spill can't happen and the community needs to know they are being supported now and in the future when such devastation occurs.

Mahalo for your time,

Lana Albright

<u>SB-150</u> Submitted on: 2/10/2025 1:52:49 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2025 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Jennifer Noelani Ahia	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

# Comments:

I strongly support this bill.

<u>SB-150</u> Submitted on: 2/10/2025 3:56:25 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2025 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
anna-marie l enomoto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill

Submitted on: 2/10/2025 7:32:00 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2025 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Sherry Pollack	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

## Comments:

I support SB150 but with amendments.

Our water security is already at risk because of global heating. Add in the Navy's criminal negligence at Red Hill, and it is clear we must do more to protect our precious wai from further harm. This measure would aid in the protection and restoration of Oahu's sole source aquifer, by establishing a WAI Policy Coordinator to facilitate the remediation of our lands and waters contaminated by the Red Hill Fuel Facility. It is critical we ensure that steps are taken for the full remediation of our lands and waters contaminated by the Navy's Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility.

The following amendments are needed to strengthen this measure.

- 1. The WAI Policy Coordinator should be placed under a multi-member body, such as the Remediation Authority described in HB2691 from last session.
- 2. The body overseeing the WAI Policy Coordinator should not be dominated by appointees of the Governor. A majority of voting members overseeing the WAI Policy Coordinator should be selected by independent organizations that represent the Hawaii community. Such organizations could include: the Honolulu Board of Water Supply, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs, the University of Hawaii Water Resources Research Center, and the Sierra Club of Hawaii.
- 3. The WAI Policy Coordinator should be supported by staff with skills and expertise relevant to achieving the Red Hill WAI's goals, to enable it to objectively analyze and respond to politically-driven and potentially biased actions and responses by the U.S. Navy.
- 4. The Remediation Authority special fund should include provisions to support nongovernmental education and organizing efforts as an essential ingredient in achieving true accountability.

I urge you to pass this very important measure with the above amendments. Mahalo.

Submitted on: 2/10/2025 8:43:39 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2025 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Brian Campbell	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

# **Dear Committee Members,**

I am writing in strong support of SB150.

As a current O'ahu resident, I believe that access to clean water is non-negotiable. The 2021 Red Hill fuel spill was a catastrophe that contaminated O'ahu's primary drinking water source, affecting 93,000 residents and forcing over 1,000 people to evacuate their homes. The damage is ongoing, and the toxic legacy of U.S. military fuel leaks must end.

Over the past **80 years, millions of gallons of fuel have leaked** from Red Hill, leaving contamination in our groundwater. **More than 6,000 people sought medical attention** due to exposure to the fuel's toxic effects. **SB 150 is essential** because it prioritizes long-term remediation, ongoing monitoring, research, and public outreach to safeguard our communities.

Additionally, this bill creates the **Red Hill Remediation Special Fund** to ensure that clean-up efforts continue while holding the federal government accountable for covering the full costs of remediation.

I urge you to pass SB 150 to protect the health, safety, and future of O'ahu's residents.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,

**Brian Campbell** 

Submitted on: 2/11/2025 1:47:08 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2025 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Michelle Poppler	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

## Comments:

As a survivor what I consider to be the greatest gaslight this state has ever experienced, the Red Hill Fuel Contamination crisis, I support SB150.

Remediation funds will help community initiatives such as Shut Down Red Hill Mutual Aid Collective continue efforts to continue our neighborhood community water jug exchange in Kapilina Beach Homes in Ewa.

A wai policy coordinator can help facilitate remediation. They will stay solely focused on protection of our wai. This is a full time job.

With the fast changes to the federal government and political policy occurring, the state needs to take matters into our own hands.

What the United States Federal government allowed to occur here for decades was criminal. Crimes of unskillful warmongering imperialism, and willful neglect and destruction of the 'aina.

We need a state liason, we need accountability, we need to invest in protection of our Wai.

Submitted on: 2/11/2025 10:07:01 AM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2025 1:05:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Ka'imina'auao Wong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

## Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Ka'imina'auao, and I am a native Hawaiian born and raised on the beautiful island of Oahu. I am writing to express my strong support for Senate Bill No. 150, which addresses the critical issue of the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility and its impact on our environment and public health.

As a lifelong resident of Oahu, I have a deep connection to our land and water. The Red Hill facility, with its aging infrastructure and history of fuel leaks, poses a significant threat to our precious natural resources. The contamination of our groundwater is not just an environmental issue; it is a matter of public health and safety that affects every resident of Oahu.

# **Purpose of the Bill**

SB No. 150 aims to address the environmental and public health concerns associated with the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility. The bill's primary objective is to ensure the safety and quality of our water supply by mandating the closure and decommissioning of the facility, as well as the remediation of any contamination caused by its operations.

## **Key Provisions**

- 1. **Closure and Decommissioning**: The bill mandates the closure and decommissioning of the Red Hill facility to prevent further contamination of the surrounding environment. This is a crucial step in protecting our groundwater and ensuring the long-term safety of our water supply.
- 2. **Environmental Remediation**: SB No. 150 includes provisions for the cleanup and remediation of any contamination caused by the facility. This is essential to restore the health of our environment and protect the well-being of our community.
- 3. **Water Safety Measures**: The bill outlines measures to ensure the safety and quality of the water supply in the affected areas. This includes regular monitoring and testing of the water to detect any potential contamination and take immediate action to address it.

# **Importance of Transparency and Remediation**

In light of the Navy's contamination of our groundwater and aquifer, it is imperative that we prioritize transparency and remediation efforts. The community has a right to be fully informed about the extent of the contamination and the steps being taken to address it. Transparency builds trust and ensures that the affected residents are aware of the measures being implemented to protect their health and safety. Remediation efforts must be thorough and effective to restore the integrity of our water supply and prevent future incidents.

## **Affected Parties**

The primary parties affected by this bill include the operators of the Red Hill facility, local residents, and environmental agencies. As a native Hawaiian and a resident of Oahu, I am deeply concerned about the impact of the facility on our community and our natural resources.

## **Implementation**

The bill sets specific timelines and procedures for the closure, decommissioning, and remediation efforts. It is important that these actions are carried out promptly and effectively to minimize the risk of further contamination and ensure the safety of our water supply.

# **Fiscal Impact**

SB No. 150 addresses the funding required for the closure and cleanup activities, including potential sources of funding. It is essential that adequate resources are allocated to ensure the successful implementation of the bill's provisions.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, I strongly support SB No. 150 and urge the committee to pass this important legislation. The Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility poses a significant threat to our environment and public health, and it is imperative that we take immediate action to address this issue. As a native Hawaiian born and raised on Oahu, I am committed to protecting our land and water for future generations. Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ka'imina'auao Wong

<u>SB-150</u> Submitted on: 2/11/2025 9:26:12 PM

Testimony for WTL on 2/12/2025 1:05:00 PM



<b>Submitted By</b>	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Alexander K.D. McNicoll	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

# Comments:

I am in **STRONG SUPPORT** of SB150.