



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## ‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

### Legislative Testimony

#### Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection  
March 24, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

By

Bonnie Irwin

Chancellor

University of Hawai'i at Hilo

HR 33 / HCR 33 – ENCOURAGING HAWAII COUNTY, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE PUKŌ COMMUNITY, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS, TO COMPLETE THE PUKŌ SEWAGE PROJECT.

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee:

The University of Hawai'i at Hilo (UH Hilo) submits testimony in support of HR 33 / HCR 33, which encourages Hawai'i County, in collaboration with the Puakō Community, Department of Health, and other Stakeholders, to complete the Puakō Sewage Project.

UH Hilo is planning the development of the Puakō Marine Center at Puakō, South Kohala, Hawai'i Island for teaching and research. The impressive coral reefs at Puakō are among the best developed and most diverse in Hawai'i. Coral reefs are in peril around the world, and Puakō has the potential of becoming the best hands-on living laboratory to promote understanding and conservation of one of Earth's most precious resources. Numerous scientific studies have been conducted at Puakō by UH faculty because of the unique characteristics, clear waters, and easy access. However, this research work has been difficult to carry out because field bases have to be established far away from the area, either in Kailua-Kona or Hilo.

The Puakō Marine Center would provide essential infrastructure to train students of all ages from across the state in science, Hawaiian culture, and conservation mauka to makai in Kohala and North Kona. UH Hilo will be the stewards of the Puakō Marine Center, which will serve as a collaborative gateway, integrating the expertise of University of Hawai'i researchers with state and federal agencies and external partners at US and international universities to address critical Pacific marine conservation and climate resilience goals. By offering specialized shore-based access to diverse reef ecosystems, the center acts as a premier international hub for visiting scientists and students to conduct high-impact research and hands-on environmental education. In addition, the the Center would also serve as a resource for the community that currently has limited meeting and gathering spaces.

A sewage system at Puakō would save millions of dollars for the construction of the Puakō Marine Center. UH's 6 year CIP plan identifies the Puakō Marine Center as a priority capital project. Presently, awarding any substantial construction permits at the

site, which sits in the Coastal Zone Management Area, requires the initial construction of a small wastewater treatment plant. However, if there was a sewage system at Puakō that the Puakō Marine Center could connect into, no on-site wastewater treatment plant would need to be built and the associated costs would be saved.

UH Hilo's Marine Science department is uniquely positioned to provide research, data and environmental monitoring essential for the success of the Puakō Sewage Project. Given the area's complex hydrology, UH Hilo researchers can utilize stable isotope analysis and dye-tracing studies to map precisely how land-based contaminants travel through the porous volcanic rock into the nearshore reef system. The project's engineering solutions translate into measurable ecological recovery. Numerous studies, including collaboration with UH Hilo faculty, have been done to document that sewage from Puakō is impacting water quality at the shoreline and having a negative impact on the coral reef. Dr. Wiegner and colleagues (2021) document how with the treatment of sewage at a wastewater treatment plant was the only way "sewage from Puakō would be completely removed from Puakō's groundwater as it will enter into a sewer system." To enhance coral resiliency to disease, including coral bleaching, removing land-based sources of pollution, including excess nutrients from sewage, from coral reefs is one of the top management actions (UH Social Science Research Institute, 2017).

We request that UH Hilo be included as a stakeholder and research resource in future discussions regarding completion of the Puakō Sewage Project. Strong consideration should also be given to inclusion of the Puakō Marine Center be included in design considerations, including location of a sewer and volume considerations for wastewater treatment.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony on this resolution.

**HR-33**

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 11:03:12 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ted Bohlen	Hawai'i Reef and Ocean Coalition	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**STRONG SUPPORT!**

Coral reef cover in Puako is reported to be down from 70% to 7%, dangerously close to the point of no return. Wastewater, especially nutrients from cesspools and other individual wastewater systems, is a major reason for coral decline there and elsewhere.

The County needs to step up and do its part to save the reefs! Please pass this resolution!



# A Community Dedicated to Saving Puakō Reef

Return the reef to its historic 70% coral coverage from its existing 7%.

[www.Puako4reefs.org](http://www.Puako4reefs.org) \* [Puako for Reefs Facebook](#)

Story map of Puakō: [Wahi Pana -A Sacred Place](#)

## HEARING FOR STATE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Tuesday, March 24, 2026 9:00 a.m.  
Conference Room 325, State Capitol

**TO:** House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection Chair, Nicole Lowen, and Vice-Chair Amy Perruso, and all members

**RE:** House Concurrent Resolution 33. Encouraging Hawai`i County, in collaboration with the Puakō community, Department of Health, and other stakeholders, to complete the Puakō Sewage Project.

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

On behalf of Puakō For Reefs, we respectfully submit this testimony in strong support of HR 33. The resolution advances effective, timely, and innovative wastewater solutions to protect and restore nearshore waters and reefs.

Puakō represents a unique and powerful model for addressing one of Hawai`i's most urgent environmental challenges. Our approach—built on partnerships between the public sector, private citizens, and philanthropic support—demonstrates a path forward that is faster, more adaptive, and more cost-effective than traditional government-led infrastructure models. This collaborative framework may be the only viable way to successfully rescue and restore the reef systems along our coastline.

While the State's mandate to eliminate all cesspools by 2050 is an important step, it is not enough to save our waters. In coastal environments like Puakō, simply transitioning from cesspools to septic systems, including advanced treatment units (ATUs), does not eliminate the problem. These systems still rely on leach fields, and given our highly porous soils and low elevation, contaminants inevitably migrate into nearshore waters. To truly protect our reefs, wastewater must be removed entirely from the groundwater system.

Additionally, the current cesspool conversion timeline is unlikely to be met without more innovative and scalable solutions. In communities such as Puakō, conventional upgrades are not only inadequate—they risk prolonging environmental harm rather than resolving it.

The Puakō community has demonstrated an extraordinary level of engagement and commitment. For over a decade, residents have worked diligently to develop a practical, community-driven solution to this statewide issue. No other community has progressed as far in proactively addressing wastewater impacts, not only for our near shore but as a model for others.



**PUAKŌ FOR  
REEFS**

# A Community Dedicated to Saving Puakō Reef

**Return the reef to its historic 70% coral coverage from its existing 7%.**

[www.Puako4reefs.org](http://www.Puako4reefs.org) \* [Puako for Reefs Facebook](#)

Story map of Puakō: [Wahi Pana -A Sacred Place](#)

Puakō is also a unique and inclusive coastal community. As the only non-gated ocean access community north of Kailua-Kona, we welcome residents and visitors alike to share in the natural resources we are striving to protect. This responsibility further underscores the urgency of implementing a lasting solution.

Importantly, Puakō has been designated as a Priority 1 area—the State’s highest ranking—for cesspool elimination under the 2022 prioritization framework. This designation reflects both the severity of the threat and the opportunity for meaningful impact.

We are committed to creating a replicable model that can serve other coastal communities facing similar challenges. With your support, Puakō can help lead the way in demonstrating how collaborative, forward-thinking solutions can protect Hawai‘i’s reefs for future generations.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify and for your continued leadership on this issue.

For Puakō for Reefs Board members and its many volunteers

**Karen Anderson**, Board Chair,  
**Stephanie Erickson**, Board Treasurer,  
**Barbara Bell**, Board Secretary, and  
**George Fry**, Board member.

**HR-33**

Submitted on: 3/20/2026 3:22:19 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Douglas Perrine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I first dived the Puako Reef in 1972. As a permanent resident of the Kona coast since 1997 I have had the opportunity to watch the steady decline, and most recently death and disintegration of this once-vibrant reef. The linkage between the death of the reef and the sewage inputs from nearby cesspools has been amply demonstrated. The residents and NGOs have made extraordinary efforts to solve the problem, while the County of Hawaii has delayed and delayed. I urge the State to pass these resolutions requesting the County to do what we residents have been begging for over the course of decades - construct the sewer lines and get the sewage treated! Mahalo for passing HR33 and HCR33.

**HR-33**

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 8:15:13 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dr. Andrew Sheinis	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am testifying in support of HCR 33, a House Concurrent Resolution encouraging collaboration among the County of Hawai‘i, the Puakō community, the State Department of Health, and other stakeholders to complete the Puakō Sewage Project. This measure is scheduled to be heard by the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection on Tuesday, March 24, at 9:00 AM.

I am a longtime resident of the Big Island, living in Waimea. I spend a great deal of time in the ocean—diving, surfing, paddling, and swimming—and make an effort to enjoy this remarkable natural resource of ours at least four or five times each week. I am deeply concerned about the situation in Puakō. My understanding of the extent of cesspool leakage into nearshore waters has made me hesitant to dive close to shore in that area.

This community-driven solution will address the problem and serve as a model for the rest of the island—and the state—demonstrating how grassroots efforts and government collaboration can produce lasting environmental benefits.

I strongly support this resolution.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Andrew Sheinis

**HR-33**

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 9:03:43 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
George Fry	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**E: Support for House Concurrent Resolution 33 (HCR 33)**

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

My name is George Fry, a 24-year resident of Puakō, and I am writing in strong support of HCR 33.

For over a decade, our community has worked to advance a wastewater solution for Puakō. This is not a future problem—it is a current and accelerating crisis. Our nearshore reef has already lost more than 70% of its coral coverage, and continued reliance on outdated cesspools and septic systems is contributing to its decline.

Puakō can and should be a model for responsible coastal stewardship in Hawai‘i. But a 2050 timeline for action does not match the urgency on the ground. Every year of delay increases environmental damage and raises the cost of recovery.

HCR 33 is an important step toward aligning state priorities with the reality our community is facing. We respectfully ask the Legislature to support this measure and help move implementation forward with urgency.

Mahalo for your consideration.

George Fry

Puakō, Hawai‘i

**HR-33**

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 9:20:14 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Johnnie-Mae L. Perry	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I, Johnnie-Mae L. Perry, Support

33 HR ENCOURAGING HAWAI‘I COUNTY, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE PUAKŌ COMMUNITY, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS, TO COMPLETE THE PUAKŌ SEWAGE PROJECT.

**HR-33**

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 2:37:26 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Scott Shurtz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

RE HR 33

Hawaii House of Representatives

Please consider passage of HR 33 encouraging Hawaii County to work toward completion of the wastewater treatment project for the Puako community. This project is vitally important for the health and hopeful restoration of the fragile reef which protects the shoreline and provides essential habitat for fish and various marine life.

This reef has been under extreme assault for many years due to untreated wastewater entering the near shore environment. The damage to the reef has been objectively and definitively documented over time by qualified research professionals and the issue (and the only meaningful solution) has been identified. Continued pressure on this reef by wastewater exposure will quickly bring the reef to a state of health that will make its return nearly impossible.

In addition to the health of the reef itself, the wastewater exposure of people (both local and visitors) should also be of concern as this shoreline and reef area are utilized by many on a year round basis.

The current plan is an excellent example of a creative public private solution which should be embraced and modeled as an approach to be used to address other challenges that seem too difficult or expensive to address as a single group or government department.

The proposed pathway to solving this important issue has been identified and much investment and interest has been shown by the local community. Please consider seeing this project through to a successful implementation. Much can be gained and learned by demonstrating a collaborative and creative approach to solving the significant problems facing our communities.

Thank you for your consideration

Scott Shurtz, Puako resident and shoreline water enthusiast

**HR-33**

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 4:30:38 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Marie Addario	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Legislators;

Puako Reef is a misnomer because it serves much more of Kohala than our small community along Puako Road. The Mauna Kea and Hapuna Resorts are reef protected by the same eco system lying just across Puako Bay. So is the state beach, Panniou and the visitors and residents all along the northern and southern part of the reef. Local fishermen throw their nets and poles or spear fish along the backbone of this extensive reef. Hawaiian families still teach their children to swim in these protected warm waters. I live on Puako Point and have watch the enjoyment of neighbors, locals, and visitors either alone or with local businesses like dive shops and kayak teams enjoy the reef. Once a year. The humpbacks see it as their nesting grounds. As the reef dies so does the entire coast's spirit.

"Puako for Reefs" has been working for years to garner support from you to help us - all volunteers of this greater community, who have taken the reins both financially and educationally, to save Puako Reef. I personally have been watching its death throws for at least 9 years when the first coral tops turned white. Now the coral is covered with sea grass. The yellows, orchid, pinks and blues of this historic reef have turned a ghostly white. It's very sad but we together can do something about it. Looks like we can't stop the ocean warming, but we sure as heck can get our waste water, which is severely adding to nature's dilemma, fixed by a sewer system. Please help us to take our next important steps to secure the reef for the next generations.

Sincerely,

Marie Addario

**HR-33**

Submitted on: 3/22/2026 3:02:59 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Brooke J Hill	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hi,

We are residents of Puako Beach Drive and would like you to understand our perspective on the wastewater project. It is critical that we protect the reef and the health of the ocean. This project has been an uphill battle for more than a decade. It is absolutely necessary for us to take giant steps to facilitate this project now.

We ask for your support in representing the people of Puako by advancing the project and coordinating resources to accomplish the wastewater management system in Puako. This will also be helpful to the other communities who need wastewater management on the island as they will benefit from all that is being learned and tried in Puako.

Healing the reef is beneficial to the land, the ocean and all of us as humans. We hope that you will see clearly on the importance of this matter and vote accordingly.

Brooke and Scott Hill

**HR-33**

Submitted on: 3/22/2026 3:38:39 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Anne Borman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this resolution to protect Puakō Reef and to create a model for other communities in the state.

**HR-33**

Submitted on: 3/22/2026 5:02:52 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Bonnie Siemer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I own in Puako and believe that this bill will help the reef and the public. Puako is a hugely used snorkel area by tourist and locals. Swimming in polluted water is dangerous and if the reef dies, there won't be tourist to enjoy and spend money in Puako. We need to clean the water for humans and the reef before we lose the reef and possibly more humans from Mersa. We need this for everyone and we need it ASAP.

**HR-33**

Submitted on: 3/22/2026 5:18:49 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Blair Assaly	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I live in Puako and strongly support this resolution, so we can clean up the Puako reef and set an example for all of Hawai'i.

Mahalo

Blair

**HR-33**

Submitted on: 3/22/2026 8:38:17 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michael Adams	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Support HCR33

I have been a property owner and seasonal resident of Puako since 2004. My parents have been Puako property owners since 1982. I received my dive certification in 1983 and have dived the Puako Reef every year since then. Now my grandchildren are snorkeling the reef!

The Puako community has talked about the sewer tie-in with Mauna Lani since I came to Puako. In my opinion this option was always the most viable and BEST option for all parties involved. My opinion is based on my first-hand experience. My wife and I graduated with Civil Engineering degrees in 1986. I oversaw the construction of an on-site wastewater treatment plant at an industrial food processing plant located in California.

We have watched the reef change over the years. This will be a huge improvement to the reef.

**HR-33**

Submitted on: 3/22/2026 8:47:30 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Richard Warner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We have owned 2A Puako Beach Road since 1978 and FULLY SUPPORT the Wastewater Treatment bill... this has been desperately needed for many years and many reasons... not least of which is the health of Puako Bay and Reef. PLEASE support this bill and make Puako a wonderful example of how various groups and individuals can come together to solve a problem, thank you, Richard Warner

**HR-33**

Submitted on: 3/22/2026 9:17:01 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sue Adams	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Support HCR33.

I support connecting Puako to Mauna Lani’s sewer system. This option is best for the Puako Reef and will be the most cost effective over the long term for residents of Puako. I have a degree in Civil Engineering and have been visiting Puako for almost 40 years. I do not understand why it has taken so long for this connection to be implemented. Please support this sewer project for Puako and to create a model for other communities across the state.

**HR-33**

Submitted on: 3/22/2026 9:28:51 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jeffrey Hughes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The preservation of the intricate anchialine ponds, reef and coast is critical because they are especially sensitive in this location due to the tidal circulation. Nearby Hapuna State Recreation area could also benefit from a sewer connection as thousands of beachgoers also impact the coastline. If the goal is to get off cesspools by 2050, it is important to create a successful model to follow, and the work and research already done makes this the ideal starting point. Also the research points to the fact that septic systems are ineffective in this location due to the natural tidal (underground) waterways. As an generational original property owner in this community, I am in full support of this resolution that will protect this coastline for generations to come. Mahalo.

Aloha Chair Representative Lowen, Vice Chair Representative Perruso, and the members of the Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection,

I am U'ilani Naipo, a marine advocate and environmental protector of our nearshore and marine ecosystems. I submit this testimony in strong support of HR 33 / HCR 33.

Hawai'i Island faces significant challenges with outdated wastewater infrastructure, particularly widespread use of cesspools. In West Hawai'i, the coastal community of Puakō has been designated a Priority 1 area—the State's highest ranking—for cesspool elimination due to its high risk to coastal water quality and nearby reef ecosystems.

In addressing wastewater challenges of Puakō, Puakō for Reefs aims to establish a replicable framework that can be implemented by other coastal communities facing similar environmental and infrastructure issues.

Please support Puakō for Reefs and support this resolution.

Mahalo,

U'ilani Naipo

**HR-33**

Submitted on: 3/22/2026 10:56:02 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Scott grainger	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this resolution to protect Puakō Reef and to create a model for other communities in the state. The analysis and data of extensive UH studies clearly demonstrate the necessity for this project; both for public safety and welfare, as well as protection of our valuable resources. please advance this bill in the interest of protecting the reef and public safety.

**HR-33**

Submitted on: 3/22/2026 11:15:35 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
JANIS L NORES	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this resolution to protect Puakō Reef and to create a model for other communities in the state.

**HR-33**

Submitted on: 3/22/2026 11:34:21 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Judy K Stevenson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this important resolution to protect Puako Reef. I believe Puako can create a model that can be used by other communities in the entire state of Hawaii. Please hear my voice. We have been working on this for so many years. Will our government help us? Mahalo for your time.

**HR-33**

Submitted on: 3/22/2026 1:21:21 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Olson Karen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We support this bill and it is past time to get assistance on this. The reef is barely surviving and the brown water is unsustainable. We have an active community fighting for this and willing to participate but need help. PLEASE Help keep Hawaii Island safe

**HR-33**

Submitted on: 3/22/2026 3:01:53 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Stephanie Erickson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The Puako community wants a sewer system. This sewer system will be beneficial to saving our reef system. Puako is the only non gated, non-gated, ocean access community. We share this ocean access, with aloha. In fact, we are the only non-gated community north of Kailua-Kona town! If a sewer system is installed it will benefit many Hawaiians for years to come.

**HR-33**

Submitted on: 3/22/2026 6:56:34 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Robert Epstein	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this resolution to protect Puako Reef!!

**HR-33**

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 1:05:51 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Annie Mendoza	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this resolution to protect Puakō Reef and to create a model for other communities in the state. Our Puako community Leaders have been working tirelessly toward this effort and are equipped to move forward as a model for other communities. Please let Puako be a shining example of Hawaii County's progress and greatness.

**HR-33**

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 3:47:54 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Julia Warner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this resolution to protect the Puako Reef and to create a model for other communities in the state.

**HR-33**

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 6:37:40 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jeanne Lewis	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this resolution to protect Puakō Reef and to create a model for other communities in the state.

**HR-33**

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 8:59:05 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nicole Nores	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this resolution to protect Puakō Reef and to create a model for other communities in the state."

**HR-33**

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 9:04:07 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Christian Enns	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this resolution to protect Puakō Reef and to create a model for other communities in the state.

**HR-33**

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 9:28:18 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sonja Rudie	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support the Puako wastewater sewage water treatment plan. Please intitiate and pass into action!

Mahalos,

Sonja Rudie

Big Island

**HR-33**

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 9:47:29 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Wayne Adams	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this resolution. The Puako reef is worth protecting and investing in.

**HR-33**

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 9:58:55 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Teresa Adams	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this resolution to protect Puakō Reef and to create a model for other communities in the state.

My grandparents have lived in puako since 1983. I have been coming here my whole life. A solution for the sewage is greatly needed. Tying into an existing system is the best solution. PUmpling sewage out into the ocean is horrible.

**HR-33**

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 12:27:47 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jon House	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this resolution to protect Puakō Reef and to create a model for other communities in the state.

**LATE**

**HR-33**

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 8:19:23 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ken Twist	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this resolution to protect Puakō Reef and to create a model for other communities in the state. We need to take action to protect the health and safety of or community, reef, fish, and county of Hawaii.