

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

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  
RYAN K.P. KANAKA'OLE  
Acting Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on  
FINANCE**

**Tuesday, April 7, 2026  
2:00 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 308**

**In consideration of  
SENATE BILL 2756, HOUSE DRAFT 1  
RELATING TO CONSERVATION ENFORCEMENT**

Senate Bill 2756, House Draft 1 appropriates funds for the purchase of equipment for the Hawai'i Island Branch of the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Supplemental Budget request.**

The Department anticipates the hiring of fifty-three (53) individuals to fill vacant Conservation and Resources Enforcement Officer positions statewide. With the filling of these positions, there will be a need for more equipment. This additional funding for equipment, including vehicles and a marine vessel, will increase enforcement capacity for the Hawai'i Branch, including ability to respond to emergencies and calls for service with increased responsiveness and efficiency.

Mahalo for the opportunity to comment on this measure.



OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

‘Ōlelo Hō‘ike ‘Aha Kau Kānāwai

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 2756 HD1**

**RELATING TO CONSERVATION ENFORCEMENT**

Ke Kōmike Hale o ka ‘Oihana ‘Imi Kālā

(House Committee on Finance)

Ke Kapitala ‘o Hawai‘i

(Hawai‘i State Capitol)

Apelila 7, 2026

2:00PM

Lumi 308

---

Aloha e Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and House Members of the Committee on Finance:

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** SB2756 HD1, which would restore much-needed funding to the Hawai‘i Island branch of the only state agency focused on enforcing laws that protect our natural and cultural resources.

Hawai‘i’s natural and cultural resources are a foundation of our economy, cultural values, and local way of life. For example, since the earliest human habitation of these islands, Hawai‘i’s nearshore resources alone have provided an invaluable source of food, recreation, and cultural significance for the people of Hawai‘i. Healthy coral reefs generate more than \$1.2 billion annually in tourism revenue and provide critical ecosystem services, including shoreline protection and food security, further enhancing their economic value.<sup>1</sup> State-supported analyses further show that coral reefs provide flood protection benefits valued at more than \$836 million annually, protecting people, property, and jobs throughout Hawai‘i’s coastal communities.<sup>2</sup> Our watersheds and terrestrial resources are similarly essential to our economy, our cultural foundation, and even our fresh water supply.

---

<sup>1</sup> [Restoring Hawai‘i’s Reefs | The Nature Conservancy](#) (Sept. 16, 2018).

<sup>2</sup> Hawai‘i Coral Reef Initiative, *The Economic Value of Hawai‘i’s Coral Reefs* (Honolulu: State of Hawai‘i, Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Aquatic Resources).

Despite the cultural and economic value of these natural and cultural resources, there is only one state agency focused specifically on enforcing the laws that protect them. As the enforcement arm of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, DOCARE's policing duties include such broad and diverse areas as fisheries, hunting, forestry, conservation lands, boating, historic preservation, and state parks. Geographically, DOCARE oversees 23,000 acres of inland surface water, 3 million acres of state ocean waters, 2 million acres of conservation land, and 1.2 million acres of state owned lands.<sup>3</sup>

Given this broad scope of responsibility, and the large amount and variety of equipment, training, and manpower needed to effectively carry out DOCARE's mission, it is clear that DOCARE has been critically underfunded for many years.<sup>4</sup> A review of budget worksheets from the last ten years indicates past legislative appropriations for DOCARE have ranged from \$6 to \$8 million dollars annually; by contrast, the Honolulu Police Department – tasked with enforcing laws in the City and County of Honolulu, and primarily in developed or municipal areas – reported a budget of \$224 million in 2010 alone.<sup>5</sup> Clearly, much greater investment is necessary to ensure that DOCARE has the resources to ensure that the laws protecting our natural and cultural resources have actual teeth, and to relieve mounting community concerns regarding the lack of support for DOCARE's important mission.

By providing funding to DOCARE to meet specific needs on Hawai'i Island, this bill provides a small but critical step in the right direction for investing in the conservation and protection of the resources that the Native Hawaiian community and the larger public rely upon.

OHA respectfully urges the Committee to **PASS** SB2756 HD1.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

---

<sup>3</sup> Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement, Mission, <http://hawaii.gov/dlnr/docare/mission> (last accessed February 6, 2013).

<sup>4</sup> THE AUDITOR, OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR, MANAGEMENT AUDIT OF THE DIVISION OF CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT 17 (2006), available at <http://www.state.hi.us/auditor/Reports/2006/06-01.pdf>.

<sup>5</sup> HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT 2010 ANNUAL REPORT 31 available at <http://www.honolulu.org/downloads/HPD2010annualreport.pdf>.

# HAWAI'I OCEAN LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE



April 7, 2026

Hawai'i State Legislature  
House Committee on Finance

Re: Testimony in **SUPPORT** for SB 2756 HD1, Relating to Conservation Enforcement

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and esteemed members of the committee,

The Ocean Legislative Task Force—a coalition of more than 150 individuals representing over 20 organizations statewide—strongly supports SB 2756 HD1, relating to conservation enforcement. Our members work across Hawai'i to protect marine and coastal resources, advance sustainable ocean management, and uphold laws designed to safeguard public trust resources for present and future generations. Effective enforcement is foundational to these efforts, and we appreciate the Legislature's attention to this critical need.

SB 2756 HD1 makes a targeted and necessary investment by appropriating funds for the purchase of equipment for the Hawai'i Island Branch of the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) within the Department of Land and Natural Resources. DOCARE officers are on the front lines of protecting Hawai'i's natural and cultural resources, often operating in challenging environments with limited staff and aging or insufficient equipment. Modern, reliable equipment directly enhances officer safety, response capacity, and the ability to deter and address illegal activities on land and in nearshore waters.

Strengthening conservation enforcement capacity will benefit not only ecosystems, but also law-abiding community members, subsistence practitioners, and responsible ocean users who depend on healthy, well-managed resources. For these reasons, the Ocean Legislative Task Force urges your support for SB 2756 HD1.

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

*The Hawai'i Ocean Legislative Task Force advocates for measures that advance cesspool conversion and wastewater management, protect Hawai'i's coral reefs and reef fish, ensure transparent and sustainable implementation of the Green Fee program and long-term environmental staffing, and support other measures that strengthen Hawai'i's coastal and marine ecosystems.*



Testimony Before The  
House Committee on Finance (FIN)  
**IN SUPPORT OF SB2756 HD1**  
April 7, 2026, 2:00 p.m., Room 308 & Via Videoconference

We are Olan Leimomi Fisher and Kevin Chang, Kua'āina Advocate and Executive Director, respectively, testifying on behalf of [Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo \(or KUA\)](#). "Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo" stands for "grassroots growing through shared responsibility," and our acronym "KUA" means "backbone." **Our mission is to connect and empower communities to improve their quality of life through the collective care for their biocultural (natural and cultural) heritage, serving as a "backbone organization" that supports creative and community-driven solutions to problems stemming from environmental degradation.** Hawai'i's biocultural resources continue to be negatively impacted by political, economic, and social changes, and the increasing dangers of climate change make fostering and empowering resilient communities acutely critical.

Currently KUA supports three major networks of: (1) over 40 mālama 'āina (caring for our 'āina or "that which feeds") community groups collectively referred to as E Alu Pū (moving forward together); (2) over 60 loko i'a (fishpond aquaculture systems unique to Hawai'i) and wai 'ōpae (anchialine pool systems) sites in varying stages of restoration and development, with numerous caretakers, stakeholders, and volunteers known as the Hui Mālama Loko I'a ("caretakers of fishponds"); and (3) the Limu Hui made up of over 50 loea (traditional experts) and practitioners in all things "limu" or locally-grown "seaweed." **Our shared vision is to once again experience what our kūpuna (ancestors) referred to as 'ĀINA MOMONA – abundant and healthy ecological systems that sustain our community resilience and well-being.**

**KUA strongly supports SB2756 HD1 as an incremental step towards 'āina momona.**

This bill would appropriate funds to the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, to supply needed equipment for the Hawai'i Island Branch to effectively carry out its mission to uphold the laws necessary to protect, conserve, and manage our unique and limited biocultural and historic resources held in public trust for current and future generations.

**A large number of our network members partner with DOCARE officers through growing community-based co-management initiatives from mauka to makai. These DOCARE officers are often the first representation community members face from DLNR.** Some wahi pana (significant places) have become well-known for their absence of almost any DOCARE presence – largely due to inadequate training resources and capacity. A bill like this, which we urge you to support, and the growing DOCARE Academy we hope you continue to support, are already filling that gap. With the recent graduating classes, so far we have heard only praise and gratitude from our community members with DOCARE's increased presence and effectiveness throughout our state. **As DOCARE's officer pool continues to grow,**

**likewise they need more equipment to carry out their enforcement duties, and particularly with a significant number of incoming officers assigned to Hawai'i Island.**

The communities we work with are committed to ensuring the long-term health of our biocultural resources that they have cared for and depended on for generations since time immemorial. **We believe our environment, the foundation of our very existence and “that which feeds” us all, requires long-term investment through a shared vision of achieving ‘āina momona (abundance) once again.** To get there requires dedicating more resources for mālama ‘āina (caring for our environment), including through this measure to ensure that DOCARE officers on Hawai'i Island have the resources they need to protect our beloved ‘āina and all the lifeforms and practices that depend on it. Our decisions today will continue to shape the future that our keiki's keiki's keiki will one day inherit – we hope for a future of shared and harmonious abundance, and hope you do, too.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in strong support. Please **PASS** SB2756 HD1.

**Aloha ‘Āina Momona no Nā Kau ā Kau.**



*He Lawai'a no ke kai papa'u, he pōkole ke aho; He Lawai'a no ke kai hohonu  
he loa ke aho" "A fisherman of shallow seas uses a short line; a fisherman  
of the deep sea uses a long line."*

## **KALANIHALE**

April 5, 2026

### **TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB2756 HD1 Relating to Conservation Enforcement**

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

My name is **Kaimi Kaupiko**, and I submit this testimony on behalf of **myself and Kalanihale in strong support of SB2756 HD1**.

We strongly support this measure because effective conservation enforcement is essential to the protection of Hawai'i Island's natural and cultural resources. Our communities depend on healthy lands and waters, and that depends in part on having the personnel and equipment necessary to uphold the law, respond to violations, and provide a real enforcement presence in places where resources are vulnerable.

SB2756 HD1 recognizes that the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement will be launching a new academy in 2026, that many incoming officers will be assigned to the Hawai'i Island branch, and that the Hawai'i Island branch is critically short on vehicles, with much of its fleet already beyond its intended service life. The bill also recognizes the need for an additional maritime patrol vessel for the West Hawai'i marine unit because the upcoming academy will include additional marine officers.

Those needs are real and important. On Hawai'i Island, where communities are spread out and access to remote coastal and upland areas can be challenging, enforcement officers need reliable vehicles and marine equipment to do their jobs effectively. Without the basic tools to respond on land and on the water, even the best laws and management plans can fall short in practice.

For organizations like Kalanihale, and for those of us who care deeply about stewardship, community well-being, and the long-term health of our resources, enforcement capacity matters. It helps protect nearshore areas, public trust resources, cultural sites, and the integrity of conservation rules that communities and agencies work hard to establish. It also helps ensure that responsible resource users and local communities are not put at a disadvantage when violations go unchecked.

We therefore support SB2756 HD1 because it appropriates funds for critical equipment for the Hawai'i Island branch of DOCARE, specifically for **one maritime enforcement patrol vessel and twenty police-marked patrol vehicles**, each with audible and visual emergency equipment.

This is a practical and needed investment. If the State is serious about conservation enforcement on Hawai'i Island, it must make sure officers have the equipment required to safely and effectively carry out their responsibilities. Strengthening the Hawai'i Island branch of DOCARE is a necessary step toward better protection of the island's marine and terrestrial resources.

89-1831 Milolii Road  
Captain Cook, HI 96704

Phone: (808)937-1310  
Fax: (866)265-6376

[kalanihale@gmail.com](mailto:kalanihale@gmail.com)  
[www.kalanihale.com](http://www.kalanihale.com)



*He Lawai'a no ke kai papa'u, he pōkole ke aho; He Lawai'a no ke kai hohonu  
he loa ke aho" "A fisherman of shallow seas uses a short line; a fisherman  
of the deep sea uses a long line."*

## **KALANIHALE**

For these reasons, **I, Kaimi Kaupiko, on behalf of myself and Kalanihale, strongly support SB2756 HD1** and respectfully urge the Committee to pass this measure.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

**Me ka ha'aha'a,  
Kaimi Kaupiko**

**Testimony of The Nature Conservancy  
Supporting SB2756 HD1, Relating to Conservation Enforcement  
Committee on Finance  
April 7, 2026 at 2:00 pm  
Conference Room 308 and via Videoconference**

Dear Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee:

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify today. The Nature Conservancy (TNC) Hawai'i and Palmyra supports SB2756 HD1, which appropriates funds for the purchase of equipment for the Hawai'i Island Branch of the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) of the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

The natural environment in Hawai'i is the engine that drives our state's economy and a natural, recreational, and cultural treasure supporting our island lifestyle and livelihoods. Careful, thoughtful, and intentional conservation, management, and restoration is critical for the environment to withstand the increasing impacts of climate change while continuing to protect our islands' economic engine. TNC is proud of our decades of working in partnership with so many local organizations, agencies, and communities to care for this vital and fragile resources.

This bill would provide funding for DOCARE to purchase equipment vital to their ability to effectively carry out its mission to uphold the laws necessary to protect, conserve, and manage marine resources, such as responding to violations and enforcing rules and regulations. DOCARE's operations on Hawai'i are critical to the long-term management of the islands depleting marine resources which are impacted by increased, often illegal, fishing pressure. This legislation will ensure DOCARE has the equipment and resources its needs to more effectively enforce fishing regulations and provide the opportunity for herbivores and other reef fish populations to recover.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of SB2756 HD1.

---

*Guided by science, TNC is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of the lands and waters upon which all life depends. The Conservancy has helped protect more than 200,000 acres of natural lands in Hawai'i and Palmyra Atoll. We manage 84,000 acres in 13 nature preserves and 18 managed areas and have supported over 50 coastal communities to help protect and restore the nearshore reefs and fisheries of the main Hawaiian Islands.*

---

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Duke E. Ah Moo Kris Billeter Anne S. Carter Ka'iulani de Silva Daniel J. Dunn Dave Eadie Jan Elliott Matt Emerson  
Hon. Judith Epstein Dr. Alan M. Friedlander Benjy Garfinkle Puni Jackson David Lassner Brett MacNaughton (Chair)  
Janet Montag Alicia Moy Katherine G. Richardson John R. Sabas Bradley E. Smith Julie Smolinski Vern Yamanaka

*Ihupani Advisory Council:* Christopher J. Benjamin Kenton T. Eldridge Eiichiro Kuwana  
Duncan MacNaughton Jean E. Rolles Crystal K. Rose Nathan E. Smith

*Founders:* Samuel A. Cooke Herbert C. Cornuelle

April 07, 2026

Hawaii State Legislature  
House Committee on Finance

Re: Testimony in SUPPORT for SB 2756 HD1, Relating to Conservation Enforcement

Aloha Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and esteemed members of the committee,

My name is Calista Ancog, and I am submitting testimony in support of SB2756 HD1. I am currently studying environmental science at Chaminade University, with the intention of entering into conservation work.

I've seen first-hand through my internship positions in conservation with Bishop Museum and DLNR, how lack of funding and inadequate equipment can limit effectiveness. It becomes frustrating when the value of the work is undermined by technical challenges as simple as not having enough resources for the people available. The testimony of DOCARE employees seem to echo these sentiments.

As my time to look for employment draws close, it is exciting to see that there are plans to increase the number of employees. By passing this measure, it will secure the ability for these new hires to have a significant impact fully supported by up-to-date equipment. Hopefully, this measure will make way for similar improvements for other conservation branches.

SB2756 HD1 strengthens the capacity of current and future DOCARE officers. With this support, they will be able to better serve the surrounding communities and the 'āina. Work in conservation is endlessly valuable, so we should support our conservation workers in every way possible. Therefore, I humbly ask that you pass this measure.

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

Respectfully,  
Calista Ancog

**SB-2756-HD-1**

Submitted on: 4/2/2026 5:20:32 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/7/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chairs & Committee members. I urge your support for SB2756. Hawaii is the extinction capital of the world, and the Big Island is home to a large number of threatened and endangered species, spread over a large area, with desperate needs for protection, and enforcement of conservation laws. If DAR's plans to re-open commercial aquarium collecting in West Hawaii proceed to fruition, we know from past experience that a large co-industry of illegal poaching will be spawned, taking cover from the permitted collecting. This will require a large investment in enforcement on the water, as well as onshore, which will not be covered by the insignificant \$100 permit fee charged per collector. Thus the infusion of funds via SB2756 is both desperately needed, and likely insufficient. Please pass and fund SB2756 to the maximum degree possible.

## **TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT – SB 2756 HD1**

### **RELATING TO CONSERVATION ENFORCEMENT**

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

My name is Frederick Smith. I live in the Kealakekua ahupua‘a in the Kona moku and am a graduate student at UH Hilo focused on marine science and policy.

**I support SB 2756 HD1**, which appropriates funds for equipment for the Hawai‘i Island branch of the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE), including a maritime patrol vessel and patrol vehicles.

This bill addresses a critical limitation: enforcement capacity on Hawai‘i Island is currently constrained not only by staffing but by a lack of functional equipment. As DOCARE brings on new officers through its 2026 academy, those officers must be paired with adequate vehicles and marine assets to be effective. Without that, increased staffing alone will not translate into improved enforcement outcomes.

Hawai‘i Island has an extensive coastline, access points are dispersed, and marine resource use is high, making reliable patrol capacity essential. A dedicated maritime patrol vessel for West Hawai‘i is particularly important given the area's scale and the frequency of nearshore resource violations requiring a marine response.

This investment also supports broader state priorities. Effective enforcement underpins fisheries management, marine life conservation districts, and the Holomua Marine Initiative. Without the ability to consistently monitor and enforce rules, even well-designed policies will fall short. I have personally contacted DOCARE regarding potential violations in the Kealakekua Bay Marine Life Conservation District and was told that the limited availability of vessels and vehicles prevented them from responding to all reports promptly.

Importantly, this bill focuses on core infrastructure rather than creating new programs or mandates. It strengthens the State’s ability to implement existing laws and ongoing management efforts.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Committee to **pass SB 2756 HD1**.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Frederick Smith

Captain Cook, Hawai‘i

**SB-2756-HD-1**

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 10:23:36 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/7/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lawrence Terlep Jr.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

My name is Lawrence L. Terlep Jr., and I serve as an Assistant Chief for the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) serving as the Hawaii Island Branch Chief. I am submitting this testimony again in strong support of SB2756.

SB2756 is critically important to maintaining and strengthening DOCARE’s enforcement capacity on Hawai‘i Island, particularly as the division prepares to onboard a new class of officers through the upcoming DOCARE Academy. Hawai‘i Island is expected to receive a significant share of the approximately fifty-three (53) incoming Conservation and Resources Enforcement Officer I (CREO I) positions, which will place immediate and substantial demands on our already strained operational resources.

At present, the Hawai‘i Island Branch faces a severe shortage of vehicles. The majority of our existing fleet has exceeded its intended service life, with most vehicles over ten years old and at least two vehicles exceeding twenty years of use. These aging vehicles present growing safety, reliability, and maintenance challenges that directly affect our ability to respond to calls for service, conduct enforcement operations, and support officer safety.

SB2756 would help address these deficiencies by supporting the acquisition of essential equipment, including vehicles and marine assets. Specifically, the Hawai‘i Island Branch has an urgent need for twenty (20) replacement and additional vehicles in Fiscal Year 2027, with an additional twenty (20) vehicles in Fiscal Year 2028. While fleet replacement will remain an ongoing need, this phased approach would significantly mitigate what is becoming an operational crisis and ensure that both current and newly assigned officers have safe and reliable transportation.

In addition to land-based resources, SB2756 is also vital to strengthening DOCARE’s marine enforcement capabilities. The West Hawai‘i District Marine Unit is expected to receive additional marine officers from the upcoming academy. However, without an additional patrol vessel, our ability to effectively deploy those officers will remain limited. An additional vessel would allow us to increase patrol hours, expand coverage range, and more effectively protect nearshore waters and marine resources.

These investments represent practical, near-term solutions to critical equipment shortages that directly impact DOCARE's mission to protect Hawai'i's natural, cultural, and historic resources. Without adequate vehicles and vessels, staffing increases alone cannot translate into meaningful enforcement capacity.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Committee to support SB2756 and help ensure that DOCARE officers have the tools necessary to safely and effectively carry out their duties on Hawai'i Island.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony and for your continued support of resource protection and public safety.

**SB-2756-HD-1**

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 1:55:58 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/7/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mark Hixon	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Members of the FIN,

Last year the legislature provided substantial and much needed funding for DOCARE to enforce fishing regulations around Oahu (HB506, signed by Gov. Green as Act 99). Such funding is now needed for DOCARE on the largest and least patrolled island: Hawaii Island. I urge you to pass and support SB2756 so fishing regulations will be better enforced, especially for herbivores, the fishes that keep reef surfaces clean so corals can thrive.

Mahalo,

Mark Hixon (coral reef biologist)