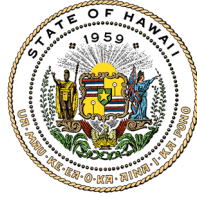


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | 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
RYAN K.P. KANAKA'OLE
Acting Chairperson

Before the House Committee on
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Tuesday, March 24, 2026
10:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

In consideration of
SENATE BILL 3253, SENATE DRAFT 2, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO CONSERVATION

Senate Bill 3253, Senate Draft 2, House Draft 1 establishes the Hawai'i Conservation Sanctuary as a nonprofit entity to protect and expand populations of endangered species and other native wildlife in the State. This bill is set to become effective on 7/1/3000. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure.**

The Department's mission is to protect, conserve, and manage Hawai'i's natural and cultural resources. The Department recognizes that accomplishing this mission increasingly relies on partnering with non-governmental organizations, including nonprofit groups that support State conservation efforts and priorities while enhancing public engagement and education.

The Department emphasizes the importance of ensuring that any nonprofit organization established under this measure aligns with existing statutory authorities.

The Department supports the goals of Senate Bill 3253, Senate Draft 2, House Draft 1 to strengthen conservation through partnership and collaboration. This would require clear roles, responsibilities, and coordination.

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

SB-3253-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 11:14:59 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/24/2026 10:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

SUPPORT!