

HB-1880-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 5:43:44 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michele McLean	Testifying for County of Maui	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee on Water and Land,

Please support HB1880, HD1 to provide funding to the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) for operations and personnel.

As a former KIRC chairperson, commissioner and staff member, I can attest that any funding for KIRC is money well spent. It is amazing how much the KIRC can do with so little money and so few staff. By relying on volunteers, meaningful restoration work continues on Kahoolawe each month, while hundreds of people from throughout Hawaii each year are able to experience the rewards of helping to transform a former bombing range to thriving native ecosystems. Even more important is the opportunity that Native Hawaiians have to connect with and practice their culture, many for the first time.

Thank you for your support of Kahoolawe, KIRC and HB1880, HD1.

Mahalo,

Michele McLean, AICP

Planning Director, Maui County



KŪKULU KE EA A KANALOA
KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

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**Testimony of
MICHAEL K. NĀHO'OPT'I
Executive Director**

Before the Senate Committee on

WATER & LAND

**Friday, March 1320
1:15 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1880 HD1
RELATING TO KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION**

House Bill 1880, House Draft 1 appropriates funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for the operations of the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission and for 2 full time equivalent positions on the Commission. The Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) **strongly supports this measure** and **requests an emergency appropriation** of additional funds for fire recovery actions.

On February 22, 2020, a large brush fire started on the western end of Kaho`olawe and burned for six days. Due to the presence of residual unexploded ordnance, firefighting crew were unable to actively fight the blaze. When the weather changed and the fire burned out, about 9,000 acres or one-third of the island was burned.

Most of the fire burned the invasive, non-native grasses that have invaded the bulk of Kaho`olawe's low elevation landscape. The main base camp facilities on the western end of the island was spared major damage, but the KIRC's main upland storage area was completely lost in the fire. The upland storage site consisted of several outbuildings housing all the KIRC's restoration equipment, materials and supplies, several vehicles, and the bulk of KIRC's stockpile of building supplies and construction equipment. Immediate recovery actions are needed to assess the fire damage and restore lost equipment and facilities in order to prevent any further aggregated environmental impacts caused by the fire.

This request is to provide emergency appropriations in accordance with Section 9, Article VII of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii for LNR 906 – Natural Physical Environmental program for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission in support of activities to recover and rebuild the infrastructure and capabilities necessary to continue the safe and meaningful use and the long-term restoration of the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve.

Testimony of Carmen Hulu Lindsey
Commissioner of the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission
Before the Senate Committee on Water and Land



Friday, March 13, 2020
1:15 P.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1880 HD1 RELATING TO KAHO‘OLAWA ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

Aloha e Chair Kahele and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran:

My name is Carmen Hulu Lindsey and I am writing in **STRONG SUPPORT** of HB1880, which appropriates funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (“DLNR”) for the operations of the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission (“KIRC”) and for two (2) full-time equivalent positions on the Commission. I also stand in strong support for a request an emergency appropriation of additional funds for fire recovery action.

In June 1993, the Hawai‘i State Legislature enacted Chapter 6K of the Hawai‘i Revised Statutes, which established Kaho‘olawe and the waters surrounding it as part of the public land trust. The transfer and control of Kaho‘olawe was placed under the responsibility of KIRC in the Department of Land and Natural Resources. Chapter 6K enumerates four exclusive and perpetual purposes and uses of the island: (1) the preservation and practice of traditional and customary Native Hawaiian rights for “cultural, spiritual, and subsistence purpose”; (2) the preservation of the island’s “archaeological, historical, and environmental resources”; (3) “rehabilitation, revegetation, habit restoration, and preservation”; and (4) education. Since that time, KIRC has initiated multiple restoration projects, financed by state funds and various grant opportunities that have made significant changes to transforming Kaho‘olawe into a pu‘uhonua with vibrant, living landscapes.

To fulfill its high fiduciary duties, the State must use reasonable skill to make Kaho‘olawe productive. Although KIRC was created to administer the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve, the State remains ultimately responsible for the fulfillment of its trust duties and must, at a minimum, provide KIRC with sufficient resources to do its job. Although the State created KIRC to fulfill its responsibilities, the previously KIRC relied substantially on the Kaho‘olawe Rehabilitation Trust Fund (“KRTF”), composed of the \$44 million appropriated by Congress back in 1993 to carry out long-term planning, environmental restoration, and other archaeological and educational activities relating to Kaho‘olawe. KIRC used KRTF to pay for the salaries of operational and administrative employees, base camp operations, and other high expenses (e.g., safety issues related to unexploded ordinance) related to its restoration and cultural programs. Although KIRC has reduced its costs in the past, the reduction could not prevent the continued depletion of the KRTF. Additionally, as Commisisoners, we must be wary of reducing our goals and expectations and instead, must focus on balancing our financial constraints with what is necessary to continue progress against the erosion Kaho‘olawe faces.

In 2015, Hawai'i state representatives introduced bills in both the Senate and the House of Representatives to appropriate general funds to KIRC for the fiscal year to "effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving, and determining the appropriate uses of Kaho'olawe" for the people of Hawai'i through restoration processes. KIRC first began receiving state general funds in the administration's budget in the fiscal year 2018-19 biennium budget, with initial funding supporting 15 FTE staff and operating funds for our Maui office and Kīhei Boathouse. General funds provided in the fiscal years of 2019-20 allowed us to restore our cultural Resource Project Coordinator position and add \$100,000 in operating funds.

On February 22, 2020, a large brush fire started on the western end of Kaho'olawe and burned for six days. Due to the presence of residual unexploded ordnance, firefighting crew were unable to actively fight the blaze. When the weather changed and the fire burned out, about 9,000 acres or one-third of the island was burned.

Most of the fire burned the invasive, non-native grasses that have invaded the bulk of Kaho'olawe's low elevation landscape. The main base camp facilities on the western end of the island was spared major damage, but the KIRC's main upland storage area was completely lost in the fire. The upland storage site consisted of several outbuildings housing all the KIRC's restoration equipment, materials and supplies, several vehicles, and the bulk of KIRC's stockpile of building supplies and construction equipment. Immediate recovery actions are needed to assess the fire damage and restore lost equipment and facilities in order to prevent any further aggregated environmental impacts caused by the fire.

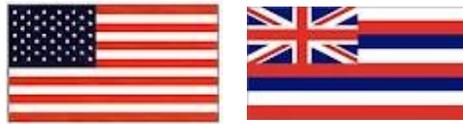
This request is to provide emergency appropriations in accordance with Article VII, Section 9 of the Hawai'i State Constitution for LNR 906 – Natural Physical Environmental program for KIRC in support of activities to recover and rebuild the infrastructure and capabilities necessary to continue the safe and meaningful use and the long-term restoration of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve.

Given the historical and cultural importance of Kaho'olawe and its role in the future Native Hawaiian governing entity, I stand in **STRONG SUPPORT** for the creation of these two positions. Increased general appropriates will assist in providing for KIRC's administrative and operational needs so that administrative staff can focus on funding restoration projects that can target erosion control and ordinance cleanup necessary to make the island safe and accessible. The general public and native Hawaiians have entrusted the State with moral responsibilities of the highest degree, and the State has the kuleana to fulfill this obligation to assist in bringing back to the island.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,

Carmen Hulu Lindsey
Commisisoner, Kaho'olawe Islnad Reserve Commission

Center for Hawaiian Sovereignty Studies
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Kane'ohe, HI 96744
(808) 247-7942
Kenneth R. Conklin, Ph.D. Executive Director
e-mail Ken_Conklin@yahoo.com
Unity, Equality, Aloha for all



To: SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Re: HB 1880, HD1

RELATING TO THE KAHŌ‘OLAWĒ ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION.

Appropriates funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for the operations of the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission and for 2 full-time equivalent positions to support the Commission. Effective 7/1/2050. (HD1)

For hearing on Friday, March 13, 2020

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION

This bill proposes to transfer an unspecified number of taxpayer dollars to the Department of Land and Natural Resources to provide funding for unspecified purposes for fiscal year 2020-2021 for the operations of the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission, and funding for 2 (additional) full-time-equivalent positions. This bill is essentially a blank

check for KIRC to do whatever it wants, with no accountability to DHHL or the Legislature.

But we can get an estimate of what is requested, because last year the comparable bill(s) proposed to transfer \$1,000,000 taxpayer dollars to the Department of Land and Natural Resources to provide funding for specified programs of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission for fiscal year 2019-2020, plus an additional \$72,000 for two FTE staff positions; and then the same amounts again for FY 2020-2021.

It's interesting that the previous year, 2018, the same legislation, SB3027 and HB2594, demanded only \$600,000 instead of \$1,000,000 to support the activities of KIRC. That was a 67% inflation rate in a single year from 2018 to 2019! And no telling how much the inflation rate will be this time around! Yes it's an island, but does that mean we must spend like drunken sailors?

PLEASE DO NOT PLACE THIS BURDEN ON THE TAXPAYERS OF THE STATE OF HAWAII.

LET OHA PAY ALL COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE REHABILITATION OF KAHO'OLAWA -- AN ISLAND WHICH THIS LEGISLATURE AND OHA BOTH BELIEVE WILL BE HANDED OVER IN THE NEAR FUTURE TO THE HAWAIIAN TRIBE WHICH OHA HAS BEEN WORKING SO HARD TO CREATE FOR AT LEAST 20 YEARS.

As the language of last year's bill points out, "Pursuant to section 6K-9, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the management and control of the Kaho'olawe island reserve will be transferred to a sovereign Native Hawaiian entity upon its recognition by the state and federal governments. This event is anticipated to occur within the timeframe of the 2026 strategic plan."

In Act 195 (2011) this legislature set in motion a process now underway to create a Hawaiian tribe. The U.S. Department of Interior recently proclaimed a regulation whereby that tribe can get federal recognition -- the final rule 43CFR50 proclaimed by the U.S.

Department of Interior by publication in the Federal Register on October 14, 2016. Both Act 195 and the Department of Interior regulation insist that the Hawaiian tribe must be exclusively for Native Hawaiians, and that anyone lacking a drop of the magic blood must be ruthlessly excluded.

According to OHA trustee Lei Ahu Isa, OHA has used approximately \$33 Million of state government money over the years to lobby for federal recognition of a Hawaiian tribe either through the Akaka bill or through advertising and racial registration programs both in Hawaii and on the mainland. OHA provided the entire funding for an election of delegates and a monthlong meeting in 2006 which produced a proposed constitution for the tribe. OHA has repeatedly pledged that when a Hawaiian tribe has achieved federal recognition, OHA will transfer all its assets to the tribe.

If the tribe is successful in creating itself and getting federal recognition, section 6K-9 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes guarantees that the island of Kaho'olawe will immediately be ripped away from the State of Hawaii and handed over to the Hawaiian tribe, to which people with no native blood are forbidden to belong.

This legislature simply must not confiscate tax dollars from 80% of Hawaii's people for a project which they will be racially excluded from.

It would be foolish and immoral for the State of Hawaii to spend taxpayer dollars collected from 100% of Hawaii's people of all races to pay for upgrades to an island which is expected to be removed from the State of Hawaii and handed over to a sovereign "nation" [tribe] restricted by law to one racial group whose people are perhaps 20% of Hawaii's people, most of whom will probably not even join the tribe. Once the tribe has been created there will be negotiations between the State of Hawaii vs. the tribe to decide how much additional land and money the State will give to the tribe. The State should not give away resources before the negotiations even begin.

OHA's most recent annual report (2017) shows that OHA has total assets of more than \$650 million. And it continues getting more payments of state government money (ceded land revenues plus legislative appropriations) every year, including a bill in last year's legislature demanding \$35 million per year from ceded land revenues.

Enough already! OHA can easily afford funding for Kaho'olawe. Let OHA pay whatever money it wishes to pay to KIRC to rehabilitate Kaho'olawe -- an island which this legislature and OHA both believe will be handed over in the near future to the Hawaiian tribe which OHA is working so hard to create.

HB-1880-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 9:56:27 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Regina Gregory	Testifying for EcoTipping Points Project	Support	No

Comments:

Funding for ordnance removal is most urgently needed.

HB-1880-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 2:50:32 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
cheryl B.	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

I am not sure why we are paying for people to work there. The fact that we have allowed the Navy to ignore it's duties to our island of Kanaloa is so wrong. THEY should be paying for anything to put that island in some semblence of honor. Yes, we need the people, my question is why isn't the NAVY paying.

HB-1880-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 3:16:25 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sarah Balmilero	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chairs and Committee Members, thank for considering testimony on HB1880 "Relating to the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission." My name is Sarah Balmilero and I am a graduate student in UH Mānoa's Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work. I am here as an individual to testify in support of HB1880, which will provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission, also known as KIRC.

In past history, as we know, the entire island of Kaho`olawe was used as a training ground and bombing range by the Armed Forces of the United States for half a century. Out of the innumerable tests and detonations, the three conducted in 1965 during Operation Sailor Hat were certainly the most damaging. While trying to determine the effects of a nuclear weapons blast, three explosions were set off, each containing 500 tons of conventional TNT. With an effect equivalent to a 1 kiloton TNT nuclear weapon, the blasts created huge craters on the island and most likely cracked the island's water table, causing extensive groundwater loss (McGregor, 2007). Year after year, topsoil eroded away and endemic flora and fauna were lost. Along with ecosystem decimation, Native Hawaiian cultural sites, shrines, and petroglyphs were also destroyed and access to the land or ocean around the island was not safe.

After the death of two activists and the arrests of many others, live firing on Kaho`olawe ceased in 1990 and an effort to remove unexploded ordnance and environmental hazards was initiated (McGregor, 2007). Since this clearance did not completely remove all hazardous materials from the island and surrounding water, a level of danger still remains. Despite this and by state law, Kaho`olawe and its waters can now be used only for Native Hawaiian cultural, spiritual, and subsistence purposes, with all commercial uses prohibited (McGregor, 2007). With this access came the discovery that over 544 archaeological and historical sites had survived the years of bombing, which qualified the island to be added to the Nation Register of Historical Places.

During my high school years, I have had the incredible opportunity to attend access trips to Kaho`olawe with both the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission and Protect Kaho`olawe Ohana. The purpose of these accesses was to protect both natural and historical resources on the island through erosion control tactics, planting endemic vegetation, and revitalizing cultural practices. These opportunities had truly helped me to understand various protocols and nature-based connections that are central to the

well-being and cultural sustainability of the Hawaiian people. All in all, these experiences have allowed me to begin to find my place within our community and discover my own connection with spirituality.

The Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission has displayed leadership and initiative by demonstrating that it is possible to reverse ecological damage, even after years of neglect and abuse. KIRC is dedicated to preserving Native Hawaiian history and helps to connect residents like me with the healing of Kaho`olawe through meaningful and safe work that integrates a culturally competent perspectives into all programs and activities. Kaho`olawe is a sacred place that needs to be protected and I believe that HB1880 will help to ensure that the island is preserved and accessible for future generations to come.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Sarah Balmilero
Individual

HB-1880-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/9/2020 9:52:06 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Don Aweau	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-1880-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 3:16:57 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
carolyn wong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chairs and committee members, I support this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe. Additionally, I support the KIRC's request for additional funding to help recover from the devastating February 2020 fires that damaged their on-island storage facilities and their restoration equipment and supplies.

HB-1880-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 3:20:24 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shannon Kaneko	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chairs and committee members, I support this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe. Additionally, I support the KIRC's request for additional funding to help recover from the devastating February 2020 fires that damaged their on-island storage facilities and their restoration equipment and supplies.

HB-1880-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 3:22:00 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dean Tokishi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chairs and committee members, I support this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe. Additionally, I support the KIRC's request for additional funding to help recover from the devastating February 2020 fires that damaged their on-island storage facilities and their restoration equipment and supplies.

HB-1880-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 3:22:08 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Arianne Chock	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chairs and committee members, I strongly support this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe. This work remains essential to Hawaii advancing as a leader in environmental sustainability and cultural preservation. Kahoolawe has many lessons for our keiki to learn to allow them to best lead in the future. Additionally, I support the KIRC's request for additional funding to help recover from the devastating February 2020 fires that damaged their on-island storage facilities and their restoration equipment and supplies.

Date: March 13, 2020

To: Senate Committee on Water and Land

From: Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D.

Re: HB 1880 HD1

Aloha Chair Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice-Chair Gilber Keith-Agaran, and members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land,

As a native Hawaiian conservationist for the past 30 years, and former natural resource manager for the Kaho'olawe UXO Cleanup operations from 1997-1999, I **SUPPORT HB 1880 HD1**. This bill appropriates funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for the operation of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission and for 2 fulltime staff to support operations.

On February 18, 2020, the Star Advertiser published an [editorial](#) supporting the funding of Kaho'olawe for the "public good" and a "state goal." The newspaper also published an [article](#) titled, "State money still needed for Kahoolawe restoration" ([Star Advertiser, 2/16/20](#)) emphasizing the paucity of restoration trust funds left after the Navy cleanup of unexploded ordnance. The restoration of the island, both cultural and natural, continue but State funds are desperately needed. The island is a beacon of hope for Hawai'i's future and a source of healing in many respects. It's future lies with us.

I am reminded of the song "Kaho'olawe" which describes the pua hinahina (*Heliotropium anomalum*) that were once abundant on the windy island...

'Ahuwale nā pua hinahina (Abundant, the hinahina blossoms)

Lua'ole na hano a ka makani (Incomparable, the breeze that blows)

Source: Kaho'olawe by Emma Bishop

The efforts of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission is working to bring back the hinahina and the other native species for future generations to experience. Please PASS HB 1880 HD1.

'O au e ke hoa,



Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D.

HB-1880-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 3:35:38 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carmela Noneza	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-1880-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 3:46:44 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Matt Hatakeyama	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha State Officials,

I humbly come before you in support of HB1880 HD1. Kanaloa is key to the next 7 generations of Kanaka. The money will go to the continuation of restoring Kaho`olawe. I'm affraid all the money will go to the Corona Virus and Kaho`olawe will be pushed aside. Please do all you can to support HB1880 HD1.

Mahalo,

Matt Hatakeyama

HB-1880-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 3:46:06 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Savannah Allshouse	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chairs and committee members, I support this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho'olawe. Additionally, I support the KIRC's request for additional funding to help recover from the devastating February 2020 fires that damaged their on-island storage facilities and their restoration equipment and supplies. As a volunteer who has worked on Kaho'olawe previously, I have some firsthand conception of the value of the equipment lost during the fires and just how crucial those vehicles, equipment, and supplies are to KIRC's fulfillment of its mission. I have personally donated funds to the KIRC fire relief efforts, but know that larger and longstanding financial support like HB 1880 is crucial to restoring the island.

HB-1880-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 8:11:22 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Margaret Pulver	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha e Chairs and committee members,

I support this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe. This funding is necessary for the KIRC to effectively meet the unique challenges of restoring, preserving and managing the appropriate, safe uses of the Reserve for the people of Hawai'i. Funding will enable the continuation of innovative land and ocean restoration programs for Kaho`olawe, while also entrusting a unique and critical opportunity to introduce, encourage and develop the next generation of land, ocean and cultural resource managers through an integrated mauka to Makai volunteer program. Through immersive, hands-on experience within a cooperative natural and cultural resource management system, these opportunities incorporate both traditional indigenous practices and modern scientific methods. The request includes funding to support current KIRC staffing and operations for FY20 and FY21, as well as two full-time positions. The KIRC's management and control of Kaho`olawe is not only restoring the ecological damage on Kaho`olawe and protecting its endangered and rare flora and fauna, but ensuring the meaningful and safe use by the people of Hawai'i.

As a former KIRC volunteer and a member of the Protect Kaho`olawe 'Ohana, I have experienced first hand how Kaho`olawe can change your life. As a teacher at Ho`ala School, I also had the ability to bring students to Kaho`olawe as volunteers, and was able to see the amazing effects it had on each and every one of them, with regards to connecting to place, culture and something bigger than themselves. Funding the KIRC at an optimal level allows them to provide these types of opportunities to the people and children of Hawai'i, which indirectly benefits all of Hawai'i, and to some extent the world as a whole.

I also support the KIRC's request for additional funding to help recover from the devastating February 2020 fires that damaged their on-island storage facilities and their restoration equipment and supplies. Seeing your home burn is devastating. Anyone who has been to Kaho`olawe, either with the KIRC or the PKO feels this connection to Kaho`olawe, and sees the island as a home away from home. The emergency funding being requested by the KIRC will allow them to get back to "business as usual" and ensure the continuation of their great work, opening up Kaho`olawe to even more people.

HB-1880-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 12:43:34 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Courtney Kerr	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chairs and committee members,

I support this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe. Additionally, I support the KIRC's request for additional funding to help recover from the devastating February 2020 fires that damaged their on-island storage facilities and their restoration equipment and supplies.

Mahalo,

Courtney Kerr

HB-1880-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 10:54:15 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Roy Alameida	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha kakou,

I fully support this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe. Additionally, I fully support the KIRC's request for additional funding to help recover from the devastating February 2020 fires that damaged their on-island storage facilities and their restoration equipment and supplies. We need to malama ka 'aina o Kaho'olawe.

HB-1880-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 10:53:39 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tamra Ashlee Probst	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

STIMONY SAMPLE

Aloha Chairs and committee members, I support this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe. Additionally, I support the KIRC's request for additional funding to help recover from the devastating February 2020 fires that damaged their on-island storage facilities and their restoration equipment and supplies.

HB-1880-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 9:39:11 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hokulani Holt-Padilla	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha, I support HB1880 to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe. Additionally, I support the KIRC's request for additional funding to help recover from the devastating February 2020 fires that damaged their on-island storage facilities and their restoration equipment and supplies.

Sincerely,

HÅ• kÅ«lani Holt

HB-1880-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 8:38:52 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sierra S McDaniel	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chairs and Committee Members:

It is vital that Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission to be adequately funded to support the restoration of the island. I speak for myself and my ohana that we fully support bill HB1880. The work that has been accomplished over the past several decades is substantial, inspirational and important for the perpetuation of native species and Hawaiian culture. Although devastating the recent fires also provide an opportunity for increased invasive species control and restoration. Supplies and equipment are needed to continue this work and support volunteer participation.

Mahalo,

Sierra McDaniel

HB-1880-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 8:27:46 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
James Bruch	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

HB-1880-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 8:01:32 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cassandra L. Smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chairs and committee members, I support this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe. Additionally, I support the KIRC's request for additional funding to help recover from the devastating February 2020 fires that damaged their on-island storage facilities and their restoration equipment and supplies.

Mahalo,

Cassie L. Hoku Smith

My name is Terri Gavagan and I am writing in support of HB1880, Relating to the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission.

I ask you to support this important measure to provide financial support and stability of the restoration and protection of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve, which will benefit all of Hawai'i's people for generations to come. My family has been greatly changed by Kaho'olawe. It has influenced my teenage daughter's decision to eventually become a marine biologist and eventually work to protect Kaho'olawe's precious marine resources. She is currently working toward her dream at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo.

This funding and the requested positions of KIR Specialists will help the KIRC to recover from the recent mass fire which destroyed almost 9,000 acres and so that it can continue to protect and restore Kaho'olawe as well as to provide safe and meaningful access to the Reserve.

Mahalo for your consideration.

HB-1880-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 5:53:31 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William Philpotts	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chairs and committee members, I support this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe. Additionally, I support the KIRC's request for additional funding to help recover from the devastating February 2020 fires that damaged their on-island storage facilities and their restoration equipment and supplies. BTW this would be an opportune time to put pressure and encourage for support to the Department Of Defense who is responsible for the clean up of unexploded ordinance, which after the fire can be better accessed. Please Malama Kahoolawe. Mahalo.

HB-1880-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 6:58:43 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Katharine T. Cannon-Eger	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Restoration work needs to continue following the recent fire.

HB-1880-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/11/2020 6:26:28 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lyman L. Abbott	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support HB 1880 as I work for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission in the Restoration Department. Thank you, Lyman L. Abbott

HB-1880-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 10:44:21 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
johann winkler	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chairs and committee members, I support this measure to provide additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission to continue their long-term restoration of Kaho`olawe. Additionally, I support the KIRC's request for additional funding to help recover from the devastating February 2020 fires that damaged their on-island storage facilities and their restoration equipment and supplies.

Aloha Chair and Committee Members,

I fully support this measure (HB1880) to provide the needed additional financial and staff support for the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission. Additionally, I support the KIRC's request for additional funding to help recover from the devastating February 2020 fires that damaged their on-island storage facilities and restoration equipment and supplies. The restoration and preservation of Kaho`olawe's cultural, archaeological, and ecological environments is imperative in assuring its existence for future generations.

I would like to share a personal story coming from the perspective of an aerial photographer currently working on a large photographic body of work documenting the anthropogenic impact and climate change happening here in Hawai'i.

In August 2019 I received permission from the KIRIC commision to visit Kaho`olawe in order to historically document from the air the archaeological, cultural and environmental landscapes of the island. During our over flight, photographer Bruce Omori and I were accompanied by Eric Brudage ZAPATA's General Manager Manager, Pacific division. Mr. Brudage provided us with insight on the historical perspective and landmarks, as well as the current restoration efforts that were in the process. We were amazed to see how effective the planned plantings were in fighting the erosion and abuse that was inflicted on Kaho`olawe. In my research I knew what Kaho`olawe looked like in the 1990's just as the restoration was beginning. The abuse of the land was haunting, and the restoration was indeed a daunting one. As I looked at Kaho`olawe that August day, I was astonished and filled with hope at what I was documenting. I could see if given more time and resources how Kaho`olawe could once again be restored to its former beauty.

It is very clear that the KIRC has been diligent in taking the lead in reversing the ecological damage/abuse that has been inflicted on its sacred landscapes. Kaho`olawe is a story of hope and what can be accomplished when we work together. It is my hope that you will vote to support the needed financial and staffing needs to continue the important work that KIRC is doing on Kaho`olawe - for its future and for future generations.

For Kaho`olawe,

Leslie Gleim

Below are images photographed from that day.



HB-1880-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 5:07:20 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tamara Moan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

With the recent fire on the island, it's more important than ever that funds supporting island restoration be available and in place. I was on Kahoolawe last summer to help with a service project--so much progress has been made but there is so very much more to do, never mind the damage the fire did which moves projects back rather than forward. I support HB1880 and ask that you do too!

HB-1880-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/10/2020 4:19:27 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrew Fox	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

It is more critical than ever to insure adequate funding since the wildfire ravaged Kahoolawe!

HB-1880-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/12/2020 6:11:55 AM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Kerr	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Honorable Legislature members,

I support this bill as I support the work of all the wonderful people who work so hard to restore Kaho'olawe. Hawaii needs this small baren island more than most know. It is a place of healing the earth and human culture. The fire devistated the land and humans alike and we all must help in any way we can. I gave money and the legislature can as well, please do.

Best regsrds,

John A. Kerr

Council Chair
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

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COUNTY COUNCIL
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March 12, 2020

TO: The Honorable Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair
Senate Committee on Water and Land

FROM: Alice L. Lee
Council Chair

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF MARCH 13, 2020; SUPPORT OF HB 1880, HD1, RELATING TO KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION**

Thank you for the opportunity to offer **support** of this important measure. This measure would appropriate funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for the operations of the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission and for two full-time equivalent positions to support the Commission.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

I support this measure for the following reasons:

1. This measure is consistent with the Council's goal of preserving and restoring as much as possible the natural state of the Kahoolawe Island Reserve.
2. The funds appropriated by this measure, as well as the additional staff provided for, will allow the Commission to expand and enhance its restoration efforts.

For the foregoing reasons, I **support** this measure.

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Dear Elected Official and Policy Maker,

I am writing to you today, in concern for the funding for Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission. I stand in full support of Director Michael Naho'opi'i, and his efforts to sustain the KIRC funding.

I find myself disheartened, when I see that he must consistently struggle to find funding for the important conservation and ecological work, that must take place on Kaho'olawe, due to devastating destruction by the Navy.

KIRC desperately needs your help securing appropriations for supplies, man power, and maintenance of motorized vehicular transportation for use both at sea, and on land.

KIRC constantly needs funds for the following reasons, to buy the supplies needed to maintain planting restoration and conservation efforts, to maintain housing facilities of staff and volunteers, to supply food and basic survival materials for the workers and volunteers, and to be able to all maintain mechanical workings that keep the jobs running, not to mention countless other costs that accrue when restoring an entire island.

I am asking you, as my elected representative, to hear me now, and pass this message on to the people you work with. Go to them, and describe KIRC's yearly, no, daily plight, to secure funding for these and more important items. Please be the person that I am glad I voted for, and use your persuasive powers to reach across party lines, to get all legislators to cast their votes for any and all bills, that protect the status quo, and/or increase the funding for Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission. Please make informed speeches to colleagues, and hold discussions with your peers, to explain why KIRC needs to keep a personnel team of highly qualified professionals. Elaborate when necessary, that these are the people who staff the core team, responsible for keeping the island in the positive direction toward a goal of total restoration.

It is important to continue to provide funding that enables KIRC to invite teams of volunteers to Kaho'olawe. Their volunteer program provides a necessary part of the work force on the island. A steady flow of these volunteers is imperative to keep in order for KIRC to accomplish the goals they have set. Volunteers work with the staff, to perform the laborious tasks of repairing the

island. As a volunteer, I am devoted to the health of these Hawaiian Islands, and I possess the love for Kaho'olawe, as do countless others. Our families are witnesses to the action we take today, and for generations to come. Please do your part to honor the will of future generations who strive to repair the island from the devastation. Hawaiians were witnesses to its destruction and are the resource of volunteers who feels the urgency to take part in its restoration.

Therefore, I am urging you to **vote in support of Bill HB1880**, and get involved in helping KIRC's scientists, cultural practitioners, Hawaiian people, passionate natural conservationists like myself, and countless talented people, who vow to do whatever it takes to restore Kaho'olawe Island to its natural condition: flourishing in native Hawaiian flora and fauna.

Thank you for reading my letter of concern. Please vote in support of KIRC's quest for financial security at every opportunity. I know I will be observing your courage and fortitude in our futures.

Sincerely,

Pamela Zirker

6406 Kawaihau Rd.

Kapa'a, Kaua'i, HI,

96746

Phone (808) 821-1350

HB-1880-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/12/2020 3:24:23 PM

Testimony for WTL on 3/13/2020 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carol Marie Lee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha mai,

As a keiki o ka aina o Maui, more specifically the moku of Honuaula, I strongly support this measure. Kanaloa, Kahoolawe is the beacon for the native people and culture o ka pae aina o Hawaii. The KIRC and its staff have been tested periodically and yet manages to perserver and maintain the "can do" attitude and move forward with whatever resources are available for their use.

After the devastating fire, the additional for financial assistance is front and center.

I olead for your searching for that little pot of dollars to continue to heal and preserve the precious resouces contined with the Reserve's boundaries.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Carol-Marie Ka`onohi Lee