



# OFFICE OF PLANNING STATE OF HAWAII

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Statement of  
**MARY ALICE EVANS**  
Director, Office of Planning  
before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**  
on  
Tuesday, April 6, 2021  
9:30 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 211 & Videoconference

in consideration of  
**HB 1352, HD 1, SD 1**  
**RELATING TO SURPLUS MILITARY LAND**

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

The Office of Planning (OP) **supports** HB 1352, HD 1, SD 1, which requires OP to submit a report to the legislature containing: (1) an inventory of all lands within the State that are leased to or controlled by the federal government; (2) any known contaminants or environmental hazards associated with the inventoried lands based on past environmental studies; (3) input from all executive branch departments and agencies and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs on remediation and restoration needs and on proposed alternative uses of the lands identified in the inventory of lands; and (4) its findings and recommendations, including proposed legislation, based on this information.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



# Environmental Caucus of The Democratic Party of Hawai'i

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April 6, 2021

To: Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair, and  
Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Re: HB 1352, HD1, SD1 – RELATING TO SURPLUS MILITARY LAND

Hearing: Tuesday, April 6, 2021, 9:30 a.m. Room 211 via videoconference

Position: **STRONG SUPPORT**

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chairs Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committees on Ways and Means:

The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i and its Human Environmental Impacts Committee are in **strong support** of HB 1352, HD 1, SD1 as it requires the office of planning to submit a report to the legislature containing: (1) an inventory of lands within the State that are leased to or controlled by the federal government; (2) any known contaminants or environmental hazards associated with the inventoried lands based on past environmental studies; (3) input from executive branch departments and agencies and the office of Hawaiian affairs on proposed alternative uses for the lands that would be consistent with their mission should the lands be returned to the State; and (4) its findings and recommendations, including proposed legislation, based on this information. Effective 7/1/3050.

For more than one hundred years, the United States Government has established naval and other military bases in Hawai'i without very much in the way of consent from the people of Hawai'i, who were not even organized as a State for a large part of that time. The playing field was anything but level.

The Democratic Party of Hawai'i (Party) has adopted at its 2018 State Convention, clear safeguards to protect the *'āina* against military destruction. At page 22 of the Party Platform, it specifically provides that Democrats "support the protection of our *'āina* against destruction by military use."

Especially with respect to properties that the United States has occupied for military purposes, very serious environmental contamination has taken place. As the United States continues its occupation of these properties and renews these leases, and even as it turns back over



April 1, 2021

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a few of these properties to the State, we are not seeing enough environmental remediation taking place as part of the process. We continue to see less than a thorough removal of hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants and military munitions resulting from active military activities. Inadequate remediation are oftentimes provided, insufficient to protect human health and the environment, thus failing to return military lands to usable condition. Separately, we are not seeing the State taking leading role in pressing the United States to: (1) release properties that it is retaining under its control; and (2) engage in more thorough environmental remediation than it has been willing to do to date. This bill would make great improvements in both of these areas and provide much transparency by requiring detailed annual reporting of these important matters.

Fundamentally, this bill intends to shift the responsibility for the lead from the federal government to the State, and pushes State officials to do what they need to do: require the federal government to turn back the lands to the State in an environmentally clean condition.

Please pass this important and overdue legislation. Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify on this key issue.

Respectfully yours,

Alan Burdick  
Co-Chair, Environmental Caucus  
Co-Chair, Natural Resources Committee  
Email: [burdick808@gmail.com](mailto:burdick808@gmail.com) and

Melodie Aduja  
Co-Chairs, Environmental Caucus  
Co-Chairs, Human Environmental Impacts Committee  
Democratic Party of Hawai'i  
Email: [legislativepriorities@gmail.com](mailto:legislativepriorities@gmail.com)



# SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAI'I

## SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

April 6, 2021 9:30 AM

In **SUPPORT** of **HB1352 HD1 SD1**: Relating to Surplus Military Land

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Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee,

On behalf of our 27,000 members and supporters, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i **supports HB1352 HD1 SD1**.

This bill would collect data relating to military lands currently under federal government control throughout the state, creating an inventory of where these lands are located and compiling information relating to contaminants and other environmental hazards that are known to be present. It encourages discussion by our state departments on potential remediation and alternative uses for the lands and any proposed legislation that would be necessary to potentially transfer these lands back to the state.

From Mākua Valley to Pōhakuloa, or the entire island of Kaho'olawe, we know that the U.S. military has seriously and adversely impacted Hawai'i's natural environment due to the occupation and desecration of these lands. HB1352 provides a mechanism to review and disclose the historical degradation and harm caused to Hawai'i's environment and Native Hawaiian communities from military use.

We see this bill as a welcome measure relating to data collection and transparency and encourage our state agencies to take this proactive step. Further, we encourage our state leaders to work together with our federal delegation to not only ensure that these lands are cleaned up, but that the burden falls on the polluters, the U.S. military, to pay for the adequate remediation and restoration of these areas.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to provide testimony in **support of HB1352 HD1 SD1**.

**HB-1352-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/26/2021 7:36:33 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/6/2021 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
cheryl B.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Support

Keep your eyes on each other and the military. Accountability and oversight.

**HB-1352-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/28/2021 12:07:35 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/6/2021 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Max Moonier	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran,

Pleas pass this bill we need to plan ahead to make the best use of military land coming back to the state.

Aloha,

Max Moonier

**HB-1352-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/28/2021 12:46:46 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/6/2021 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melissa Lawrence	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support HB 1352 ! Let's clean up this military land and make it useful for our community !

**HB-1352-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/28/2021 12:51:23 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/6/2021 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
stephanie frazier	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill



**HB-1352-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/28/2021 1:09:17 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/6/2021 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Debbie Schatz	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha members of WAM. Please pass this bill so the state can start planning ahead to optimize this once land once it is available.

**HB-1352-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/28/2021 1:24:48 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/6/2021 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Martine Bissonnette	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support.

**HB-1352-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/28/2021 1:55:04 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/6/2021 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Karen Simmons	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support HB1352 HD1 SD1. Thank you

**HB-1352-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/29/2021 8:36:13 PM

Testimony for WAM on 4/6/2021 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kimeona Kane	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I support HB1352 HD1 SD1. Please consider the return of these critical parcels of land from the US Government to the State of Hawai'i and return the land to acceptable conditions to allow for use by and for the native people. The US Government has shown to be poor stewards of native lands, while our Kanaka struggle to find spaces to exist and thrive. Clean it up, give it back.

Mahalo,  
Kimeona

**HB-1352-SD-1**

Submitted on: 4/1/2021 11:25:01 AM

Testimony for WAM on 4/6/2021 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kaikea K. Blakemore	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Support