

LATE

HR-97

Submitted on: 3/26/2019 8:08:25 PM

Testimony for WLH on 3/27/2019 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Levani	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

I am writing to support **Resolution HR 97**. Kaelepulu Pond is currently listed as an impaired body of water. As a paddler and a lover of the ocean, I feel strongly about protecting our waterways. As a resident who lives in the coastal community of Kailua and as an individual who interfaces with the water on a daily basis I am aware that pollutants exist from runoff and storm drains. This is a growing concern among our community. We don't want further compromising of our water system. Water quality studies play a critical role in the health of our waterways, the protection of our ocean, marine life and ecosystems. TMDLs studies are important markers and indicators. These tools can help us protect our water systems in the long term. With such frequent use of our beaches and Bay, the Department of Health needs to make this TDML study a high priority.

Kaelepulu Pond, the associated Kaelepulu Stream and Kawainui Stream are valuable waterways in our windward Oahu watershed and are part of a larger wetland environment that supports endangered species of birds and serves as hatcheries for juvenile fish. For the longevity of these waterways conducting a TMDL study is vital to Kaelepulu Watershed.

In 2017, I created a [petition directed to the Department of Health asking for TMDL studies to be conducted](#). The petition was signed by over 400 people.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of this resolution.

Sincerely,

Levani Lipton