



LATE

Testimony Before The
Senate Committee on Water, land and Agriculture
IN SUPPORT OF HB 2023 HD1
Wednesday March 16, 2016, 3:00pm, Room 224

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Nishihara and Committee Members:

My name is Kevin Chang, I am the Executive Director of Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo (or KUA) and this is our testimony in support of HB 2023 HD 1 with comments.

KUA works to empower communities to improve their quality of life through caring for their environmental heritage together to better Hawai'i and achieve 'āina momona— an abundant, productive ecological system that supports community well-being. We employ a community-driven approach that currently supports three statewide networks: more than 31 mālama 'āina community groups collectively referred to as E Alu Pū (moving forward together), 38 fishpond projects and practitioners called the Hui Mālama Loko I'a, and a new and growing group of Limu practitioners called the Limu Hui.

This bill is heartening to read, especially after the long process that the community in Hā'ena, Kaua'i went through. KUA supports the intent of HB2023 HD 1 and views it as a very positive sign of progress in the implementation of community based subsistence fishing areas and rules. Many communities around the state have desired and/or have worked extremely hard in a voluntary capacity to develop CBSFA designations and rules with the DLNR for some time now- over 20 years and 5 administrations- since HRS 188-22.6 came into effect.

KUA also supports current progress in the exploration, development and implementation of community-based co-management of our near shore marine resources through other means such as, for example, the innovative ways communities participate in management of their fisheries in West Hawai'i or through the Community Fishery Enforcement Unit on Maui or the Makai Watch Program.

However, if the Legislature passes HB2023 HD1, we urge that the DLNR receive sufficient permanent staff and resources to effectively support this work. Communities have learned it is also not enough to pass laws but enable our state and communities to do the actual work of making the law real. This dual approval approach (required CBSFAs with resources) will contribute greatly to healthy governance and increased public trust.

I apologize for not being with you in person today as I have a prior commitment. Mahalo for your service to our community and this opportunity to testify.

Aloha 'Āina Momona.

gabbard2 - Donna

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
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HB2023

Submitted on: 3/16/2016

Testimony for WLA on Mar 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Matthew Ross	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: Please do not pass this bill. Community based management isn't easy to do properly. If it's done wrong, it divides our community and creates conflict. Forcing the state to enact these measures within 5 years will cause them to rush the process and make too many mistakes.

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