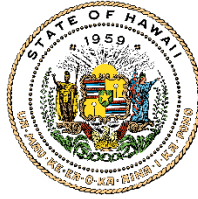


JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF Hawai'i | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA

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FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

Testimony of  
DAWN N. S. CHANG  
Chairperson

Before the House Committee on  
FINANCE

Friday, March 31, 2023  
2:00PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 308 & Via Videoconference

In consideration of  
SENATE BILL 75, SENATE DRAFT 2, HOUSE DRAFT 1  
RELATING TO HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Senate Bill 75, Senate Draft 2, House Draft 1 proposes to appropriate funds to initiate the development of a comprehensive statewide inventory of historic properties and burial sites. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) strongly supports this measure.**

Senate Bill 75, Senate Draft 2, House Draft 1 proposes to appropriate a blank level of funding for archaeological survey, burial sites inventory, and inventory of historic buildings to the Department to undertake the surveys necessary to develop a comprehensive statewide survey of historic properties, archaeological sites, and burial sites. As far as the Department is aware, development of a comprehensive inventory has never been funded.

The Department believes that the implementation of a comprehensive survey is essential to meeting the goals set in the establishment of the Department's State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) in Section 6E-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS). SHPD does maintain an inventory, but it relies almost entirely on the supporting data provided by agencies and project sponsors submitted as part of the project review processes established by Sections 6E-8, 6E-10, 6E-42, HRS, and under federal law. As a result, SHPD's inventory has limited geographic coverage and, even in 'high' development areas, is incomplete. In the absence of better inventory data, it is extremely challenging for SHPD to assess with great confidence the condition of Hawaii's historic resources. A comprehensive inventory would provide information essential to managing and protecting the state's cultural and heritage resources.

Equally important, a comprehensive inventory as contemplated in this measure would greatly facilitate development of critical projects, such as affordable housing, renewable energy, and

essential infrastructure, and associated permit reviews by providing project planners, designers, and consultants to have access to a comprehensive inventory of historic properties and burial sites. The inventory will ensure that they have best available and current information when siting and designing their projects from the earliest stages of project planning to avoid adverse impacts rather than to discover these resources during construction. It would facilitate permit review as information on historic properties and burials would be available to permitting agencies allowing them to make better decisions about what projects needed to be submitted to SHPD for review. The inventory would also assist SHPD in making better decisions on those projects it does receive for review and expedite the review process as SHPD will have more of the essential data for its review already at hand.

While Senate Bill 75, Senate Draft 2, House Draft 1 does not specify the level of funding, the Department believes that \$750,000 per year for each of the three categories may be appropriate to initiate the first phase of the multi-year effort necessary to complete the statewide survey. The Department acknowledges and thanks the House Committee on Water and Land for amending this measure so that the appropriated general funds will be deposited in the Hawaii Historic Preservation Special Fund where they will remain available until completely expended for the purposes of this act.

The Department also notes that SHPD will have to contract all the work necessary to carry out the inventory effort as it does not have the in-house capacity to carry out the essential activity of creating a comprehensive inventory. However, we believe the investment in developing a comprehensive inventory now will facilitate the project review and development in the long run.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of this measure.



# MAUI

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

VOICE OF BUSINESS

HEARING BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
FINANCE  
HAWAII STATE CAPITOL, HOUSE CONFERENCE ROOM 308  
FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 2023 AT 2:00 P.M.

To The Honorable Kyle T. Yamashita, Chair  
The Honorable Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair  
Members of the Committee on Finance

## SUPPORT FOR SB75 SD2 HD1 RELATING TO HISTORIC PRESERVATION

The Maui Chamber of Commerce **SUPPORTS SB75 SD2 HD1** which appropriates funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources to inventory historic properties and burial sites in the State, collect data on burial site locations, and conduct an archaeological surface survey.

The Chamber notes that historic property inventories and surveys are a crucial step in the historic preservation process. The surveys and inventories provide research, evaluation and examples of patterns, themes and trends in which a building, structure, site, object or district is understood. The surveys provide information on meaning and provide the necessary background to understand why a given resource may be historically significant. The inventories then provide information on specific properties and features that convey that significance and are important to the cultural heritage of the community and the public.

If a developer knows what structures/land would need to go through review by the State Historical Preservation Department (SHPD), due to burials on a certain parcel, then other areas may be more practical to develop affordable housing. Knowing where there are no burials could potentially expedite the permitting process for affordable housing and rentals as well as easing the burden on SHPD as they would not have to verify every project for burials.

For these reasons, the Chamber **SUPPORTS SB75 SD2 HD1**.

Sincerely,

Pamela Tumpap  
President

To advance and promote a healthy economic environment for business, advocating for a responsive government and quality education, while preserving Maui's unique community characteristics.

**SB-75-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 6:30:12 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Will Caron	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support SB75 SD2 HD1.

**SB-75-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 1:47:36 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rona Ikehara-Quebral	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha All,

Thank you for all of your hard work to get funds appropriated to develop a comprehensive statewide inventory of historic properties and burial sites. As an archaeologist and bioarchaeologist who has worked in Hawai'i in the Cultural Resources Management industry for over 30 years, I am submitting this testimony in **support of SB75**. SB75 would enable the State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) to inventory historic properties, document burial site locations, and assess the potential sensitivity of areas by conducting surface surveys. Allocating funds for these important tasks would allow the SHPD to better manage and protect burial sites and our archaeological resources and better assess the potential level of sensitivity of areas that contain burials. This is everyone's kuleana.

Thank you for considering this testimony.

Kind Regards,

Rona Ikehara-Quebral, Ph.D.

Manager & Senior Bioarchaeologist

International Archaeological Research Institute, Inc., Honolulu

**SB-75-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2023 1:51:29 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
J. Stephen Athens	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is an important piece of legislation that will substantially contribute to the preservation and conservation of historical resources in Hawaii, including the preservation of burial sites. The latter is particularly important due to the rise in sea level, which will seriously impact coastal sites, especially when there are storm waves.

I strongly support SB75 SD2 HD1

Stephen Athens