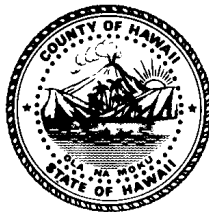


HEATHER L. KIMBALL
Council District 1 (North Hilo,
Hāmākua, and portion of Waimea)



Phone: (808) 961-8828
Fax: (808) 961-8912
Email: Heather.Kimball@hawaiicounty.gov

HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL
25 Aupuni Street, Ste. 1402.
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720



February 3, 2025

State of Hawai'i Land Use Commission
Dan Giovanni, Chair
Michael Yamane, First Vice-Chair
Kū'ikeokalani Kamakea-Ōhelo, Second Vice-Chair
Via electronic submission only

RE: **Support of SB1079 and HB502** (Item No. 8 on February 5, 2025 agenda)

Dear Chair Giovanni, First Vice-Chair Yamane, Second Vice-Chair Kamakea-Ōhelo, and Members of the Land Use Commission:

As the representative of the Hawai'i County Council for District 1, I thank you for the opportunity to submit **testimony in SUPPORT of SB1079 and HB 502**, relating to a temporary opportunity for counties to petition for the redistricting of land from the Agricultural District to the Rural District through the Land Use Commission's declaratory ruling process.

In the County of Hawai'i there are a number of areas that would meet the conditions specified in SB1079 and HB502. Being able to use the declaratory ruling process to amend the state land use from Agricultural to Rural would have two key benefits:

- 1) The counties would be better able to address the affordable housing crisis because the development ADUs on state land use Agricultural is restricted by the limitations of HRS 205. Allowing the counties to change the state land use to Rural could mean several thousand privately developed units on properties that are unlikely ever to be used for agriculture.
- 2) By removing the non-conforming rural uses in the Agricultural district, the county will be better able to regulate and ensure the appropriate use of true agricultural land.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony. If you would like to discuss my knowledge of this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

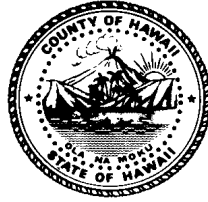
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather L. Kimball".

HEATHER L. KIMBALL

C. Kimo Alameda, Ph.D.
Mayor

William V. Brillhante, Jr.
Managing Director

West Hawai'i Office
74-5044 Ane Keohokālole Hwy
Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740
Phone (808) 323-4770
Fax (808) 327-3563



County of Hawai'i PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Jeffrey W. Darrow
Director

Michelle S. Ahn
Deputy Director

East Hawai'i Office
101 Pauahi Street, Suite 3
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720
Phone (808) 961-8288
Fax (808) 961-8742

February 3, 2025

Testimony by
JEFFREY W. DARROW, Planning Director
County of Hawai'i Planning Department

before the
Land Use Commission
Wednesday, February 5, 2025, 10:00 am
State Office Tower, Room 405 & Videoconference

In consideration of
2025 State Legislative Bills Affecting the Land Use Commission



Chairs and Members of the Land Use Commission,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of the County of Hawai'i Planning Department regarding the 2025 State Legislative bills impacting the Land Use Commission. The Planning Department strongly supports legislative efforts to streamline the State Land Use Boundary amendment process for Counties to redesignate lands to the urban district that implement the General Plan within urban growth areas. We also support the effort to redesignate lands from the agricultural to the rural district for smaller, nonconforming lots that do not support commercial agriculture and are rural in character. In particular, we support:

- **SB 36:** Requires the Land Use Commission to reclassify lands designated for urban growth under a county general plan or development plan as urban at the county's request.
- **SB 1079 / HB 502:** Temporarily allows counties, by resolution of their county councils, to petition for the redistricting of agricultural land to rural through the LUC's declaratory ruling process (effective 7/1/2026; sunsets 6/30/2029).
- **SB 1157:** Allows counties to amend district boundaries for land areas greater than 15 acres without LUC approval if included in a county general or development plan. Requests LUC to update digital land use district maps and promote transit-oriented development while preserving rural character.
- **SB 1334 / HB 1015:** Authorizes county-led petitions for land use district boundary amendments based on adopted county general or development plans.

These bills will help expedite the process for redesignating lands to the State Land Use Urban district, as well as from the State Land Use Agricultural to the Rural district, allowing for a more efficient implementation of the County's General Plan. By improving the efficiency of land-use decisions, these measures will enhance the County's ability to support responsible growth through the implementation of the General Plan while balancing community needs. We appreciate your consideration and urge your support for these legislative efforts.

From: [Lauren Ballesteros](#)
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Items: 6-18
Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 6:46:11 PM



Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,

My name is Lauren Ballesteros-Watanabe and I first want to thank you for your service in helping navigate complex land use decisions that may impact our landscape, our islands, and our communities for decades if not generations.

As you consider your positions on the 12 bills agendized for discussion today, I urge you to consider the importance of the public interests you have been chosen to protect - including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. I also urge you to remember the critical LUC fact-finding and decision-making process that entails a much more rigorous, detailed, and politically objective means of striking a balance between these important public interests.

With decisions impacting dozens if not hundreds of acres of land at a time - decisions that could impact the food and water security of our children and grandchildren, and the environmental and cultural integrity of the islands they inherit - we must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments. Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.

Please also do not surrender your kuleana to ensure a close, objective, and granular analysis of land use changes, using a process that ensures the voices of Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with intimate familiarity of the land in question to be heard and explicitly recognized in decisionmaking. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your critical work when it comes to finding the best balance between critical public interests, and ensuring the high level of care that our ‘āina and our communities deserve. Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding.

Finally, many of these measures do not reflect a close understanding of the role of our land use districts or the district boundary amendment process that is highly expedited for affordable housing projects, yet still serve to safeguard public interests and needs from unintended consequences. SB1114 and HB826 should be critically analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations‘ food security, is further compromised.

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this testimony.

Sincerely,
Lauren Ballesteros-Watanabe

From: [Nanea Lo](#)
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony for Agenda Items 6-18
Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 6:48:46 PM



Hello Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,

My name is Nanea Lo, and I first want to extend my gratitude for your service in navigating the complex land use decisions that will shape our islands, landscapes, and communities for generations to come.

As you consider the 12 bills on today’s agenda, I urge you to prioritize the public interests you have been entrusted to protect—including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. Your role in maintaining the integrity of our land use decision-making process is critical to ensuring that these vital interests remain safeguarded.

I strongly oppose **SB28**, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only three individuals. With decisions affecting hundreds of acres of land—potentially endangering food and water security for future generations, as well as the environmental and cultural integrity of our islands—we must uphold the rigor and objectivity of the **six-member approval process** for land use district boundary amendments.

Additionally, I urge you to **oppose SB1079, HB502, SB1157, SB1334, and HB1015**, as they would diminish the critical fact-finding and decision-making process that ensures Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with deep knowledge of the land are heard and recognized. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your kuleana in striking a careful balance between public interests and the long-term well-being of our ‘āina and people.

Lastly, **SB1114 and HB826** must be carefully scrutinized before allowing further encroachments into our agricultural district. These measures fail to fully consider the impact of district boundary amendments on food security and the future sustainability of our islands.

I urge you to uphold the high level of care that our communities and our ‘āina deserve. Please stand firm in your kuleana and **oppose these measures** that would weaken essential public interest protections.

Me ke aloha ‘āina,

--

Nanea Lo (*she/they/'o ia*) | Micro-influencer
[Executive Commission](#) | [Sierra Club of Hawai'i](#)
[Board Member](#) | [Hawai'i Worker's Center](#)
[Granter](#) | [Hawai'i People's Fund](#)
(808)444-1229
[LinkedIn](#)

"Some people say that Hawai'i will be a better place when Hawaiians no longer stand in the way of progress. But even these people must know that at this point, this will no longer be Hawai'i."- Jonathan Kay Kamakawiwo'ole Osorio. The Value of Hawai'i



From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 6:50:49 PM

Name
Nanea Lo
Email
naneaclo@gmail.com
ZIP / Postal Code
96826
Representing
Self
Agenda Item
ITEM #6: SB28
Position
Oppose
Testimony
<p>Hello Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,</p> <p>My name is Nanea Lo, and I first want to extend my gratitude for your service in navigating the complex land use decisions that will shape our islands, landscapes, and communities for generations to come.</p> <p>As you consider the 12 bills on today’s agenda, I urge you to prioritize the public interests you have been entrusted to protect—including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. Your role in maintaining the integrity of our land use decision-making process is critical to ensuring that these vital interests remain safeguarded.</p> <p>I strongly oppose SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only three individuals. With decisions affecting hundreds of acres of land—potentially endangering food and water security for future generations, as well as the environmental and cultural integrity of our islands—we must uphold the rigor and objectivity of the six-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments.</p> <p>Additionally, I urge you to oppose SB1079, HB502, SB1157, SB1334, and HB1015, as they would diminish the critical fact-finding and decision-making process that ensures Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with deep knowledge of the land are heard and recognized. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your kuleana in striking a careful balance between public interests and the long-term well-being of our ‘āina and people.</p> <p>Lastly, SB1114 and HB826 must be carefully scrutinized before allowing further encroachments into our agricultural district. These measures fail to fully consider the impact of district boundary amendments on food security and the future sustainability of our islands.</p> <p>I urge you to uphold the high level of care that our communities and our ‘āina deserve. Please stand firm in your kuleana and oppose these measures that would weaken essential public interest protections.</p> <p>Me ke aloha ‘āina, Nanea Lo Mō‘ili‘ili, HI 96826</p>

Executive Commission Member, Sierra Club of Hawai'i
Board Member, Hawai'i Workers Center
Kanaka Maoli / Lineal Descendant of the Hawaiian Kingdom



From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 6:51:14 PM

Name
Nanea Lo
Email
naneaclo@gmail.com
ZIP / Postal Code
96826
Representing
Self
Agenda Item
ITEM #7: SB36
Position
Oppose
Testimony
<p>Hello Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,</p> <p>My name is Nanea Lo, and I first want to extend my gratitude for your service in navigating the complex land use decisions that will shape our islands, landscapes, and communities for generations to come.</p> <p>As you consider the 12 bills on today’s agenda, I urge you to prioritize the public interests you have been entrusted to protect—including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. Your role in maintaining the integrity of our land use decision-making process is critical to ensuring that these vital interests remain safeguarded.</p> <p>I strongly oppose SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only three individuals. With decisions affecting hundreds of acres of land—potentially endangering food and water security for future generations, as well as the environmental and cultural integrity of our islands—we must uphold the rigor and objectivity of the six-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments.</p> <p>Additionally, I urge you to oppose SB1079, HB502, SB1157, SB1334, and HB1015, as they would diminish the critical fact-finding and decision-making process that ensures Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with deep knowledge of the land are heard and recognized. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your kuleana in striking a careful balance between public interests and the long-term well-being of our ‘āina and people.</p> <p>Lastly, SB1114 and HB826 must be carefully scrutinized before allowing further encroachments into our agricultural district. These measures fail to fully consider the impact of district boundary amendments on food security and the future sustainability of our islands.</p> <p>I urge you to uphold the high level of care that our communities and our ‘āina deserve. Please stand firm in your kuleana and oppose these measures that would weaken essential public interest protections.</p> <p>Me ke aloha ‘āina, Nanea Lo Mō‘ili‘ili, HI 96826</p>

Executive Commission Member, Sierra Club of Hawai'i
Board Member, Hawai'i Workers Center
Kanaka Maoli / Lineal Descendant of the Hawaiian Kingdom



From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 6:51:38 PM

Name
Nanea Lo
Email
naneaclo@gmail.com
ZIP / Postal Code
96826
Representing
Self
Agenda Item
ITEM #8: SB1079 and HB502
Position
Oppose
Testimony
<p>Hello Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,</p> <p>My name is Nanea Lo, and I first want to extend my gratitude for your service in navigating the complex land use decisions that will shape our islands, landscapes, and communities for generations to come.</p> <p>As you consider the 12 bills on today’s agenda, I urge you to prioritize the public interests you have been entrusted to protect—including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. Your role in maintaining the integrity of our land use decision-making process is critical to ensuring that these vital interests remain safeguarded.</p> <p>I strongly oppose SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only three individuals. With decisions affecting hundreds of acres of land—potentially endangering food and water security for future generations, as well as the environmental and cultural integrity of our islands—we must uphold the rigor and objectivity of the six-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments.</p> <p>Additionally, I urge you to oppose SB1079, HB502, SB1157, SB1334, and HB1015, as they would diminish the critical fact-finding and decision-making process that ensures Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with deep knowledge of the land are heard and recognized. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your kuleana in striking a careful balance between public interests and the long-term well-being of our ‘āina and people.</p> <p>Lastly, SB1114 and HB826 must be carefully scrutinized before allowing further encroachments into our agricultural district. These measures fail to fully consider the impact of district boundary amendments on food security and the future sustainability of our islands.</p> <p>I urge you to uphold the high level of care that our communities and our ‘āina deserve. Please stand firm in your kuleana and oppose these measures that would weaken essential public interest protections.</p> <p>Me ke aloha ‘āina, Nanea Lo Mō‘ili‘ili, HI 96826</p>

Executive Commission Member, Sierra Club of Hawai'i
Board Member, Hawai'i Workers Center
Kanaka Maoli / Lineal Descendant of the Hawaiian Kingdom



From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 6:51:56 PM

Name
Nanea Lo
Email
naneaclo@gmail.com
ZIP / Postal Code
96826
Representing
Self
Agenda Item
ITEM #9: SB1114
Position
Oppose
Testimony
<p>Hello Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,</p> <p>My name is Nanea Lo, and I first want to extend my gratitude for your service in navigating the complex land use decisions that will shape our islands, landscapes, and communities for generations to come.</p> <p>As you consider the 12 bills on today’s agenda, I urge you to prioritize the public interests you have been entrusted to protect—including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. Your role in maintaining the integrity of our land use decision-making process is critical to ensuring that these vital interests remain safeguarded.</p> <p>I strongly oppose SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only three individuals. With decisions affecting hundreds of acres of land—potentially endangering food and water security for future generations, as well as the environmental and cultural integrity of our islands—we must uphold the rigor and objectivity of the six-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments.</p> <p>Additionally, I urge you to oppose SB1079, HB502, SB1157, SB1334, and HB1015, as they would diminish the critical fact-finding and decision-making process that ensures Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with deep knowledge of the land are heard and recognized. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your kuleana in striking a careful balance between public interests and the long-term well-being of our ‘āina and people.</p> <p>Lastly, SB1114 and HB826 must be carefully scrutinized before allowing further encroachments into our agricultural district. These measures fail to fully consider the impact of district boundary amendments on food security and the future sustainability of our islands.</p> <p>I urge you to uphold the high level of care that our communities and our ‘āina deserve. Please stand firm in your kuleana and oppose these measures that would weaken essential public interest protections.</p> <p>Me ke aloha ‘āina, Nanea Lo Mō‘ili‘ili, HI 96826</p>

Executive Commission Member, Sierra Club of Hawai'i
Board Member, Hawai'i Workers Center
Kanaka Maoli / Lineal Descendant of the Hawaiian Kingdom



From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 6:52:23 PM

Name
Nanea Lo
Email
naneaclo@gmail.com
ZIP / Postal Code
96826
Representing
Self
Agenda Item
ITEM #9: SB1114
Position
Oppose
Testimony
<p>Hello Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,</p> <p>My name is Nanea Lo, and I first want to extend my gratitude for your service in navigating the complex land use decisions that will shape our islands, landscapes, and communities for generations to come.</p> <p>As you consider the 12 bills on today’s agenda, I urge you to prioritize the public interests you have been entrusted to protect—including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. Your role in maintaining the integrity of our land use decision-making process is critical to ensuring that these vital interests remain safeguarded.</p> <p>I strongly oppose SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only three individuals. With decisions affecting hundreds of acres of land—potentially endangering food and water security for future generations, as well as the environmental and cultural integrity of our islands—we must uphold the rigor and objectivity of the six-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments.</p> <p>Additionally, I urge you to oppose SB1079, HB502, SB1157, SB1334, and HB1015, as they would diminish the critical fact-finding and decision-making process that ensures Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with deep knowledge of the land are heard and recognized. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your kuleana in striking a careful balance between public interests and the long-term well-being of our ‘āina and people.</p> <p>Lastly, SB1114 and HB826 must be carefully scrutinized before allowing further encroachments into our agricultural district. These measures fail to fully consider the impact of district boundary amendments on food security and the future sustainability of our islands.</p> <p>I urge you to uphold the high level of care that our communities and our ‘āina deserve. Please stand firm in your kuleana and oppose these measures that would weaken essential public interest protections.</p> <p>Me ke aloha ‘āina, Nanea Lo Mō‘ili‘ili, HI 96826</p>

Executive Commission Member, Sierra Club of Hawai'i
Board Member, Hawai'i Workers Center
Kanaka Maoli / Lineal Descendant of the Hawaiian Kingdom

From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 6:52:38 PM



Name
Nanea Lo
Email
naneaclo@gmail.com
ZIP / Postal Code
96826
Representing
Self
Agenda Item
ITEM #10: SB1157
Position
Oppose
Testimony
<p>Hello Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,</p> <p>My name is Nanea Lo, and I first want to extend my gratitude for your service in navigating the complex land use decisions that will shape our islands, landscapes, and communities for generations to come.</p> <p>As you consider the 12 bills on today’s agenda, I urge you to prioritize the public interests you have been entrusted to protect—including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. Your role in maintaining the integrity of our land use decision-making process is critical to ensuring that these vital interests remain safeguarded.</p> <p>I strongly oppose SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only three individuals. With decisions affecting hundreds of acres of land—potentially endangering food and water security for future generations, as well as the environmental and cultural integrity of our islands—we must uphold the rigor and objectivity of the six-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments.</p> <p>Additionally, I urge you to oppose SB1079, HB502, SB1157, SB1334, and HB1015, as they would diminish the critical fact-finding and decision-making process that ensures Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with deep knowledge of the land are heard and recognized. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your kuleana in striking a careful balance between public interests and the long-term well-being of our ‘āina and people.</p> <p>Lastly, SB1114 and HB826 must be carefully scrutinized before allowing further encroachments into our agricultural district. These measures fail to fully consider the impact of district boundary amendments on food security and the future sustainability of our islands.</p> <p>I urge you to uphold the high level of care that our communities and our ‘āina deserve. Please stand firm in your kuleana and oppose these measures that would weaken essential public interest protections.</p> <p>Me ke aloha ‘āina, Nanea Lo Mō‘ili‘ili, HI 96826</p>

Executive Commission Member, Sierra Club of Hawai'i
Board Member, Hawai'i Workers Center
Kanaka Maoli / Lineal Descendant of the Hawaiian Kingdom

From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 6:52:53 PM



Name
Nanea Lo
Email
naneaclo@gmail.com
ZIP / Postal Code
96826
Representing
Self
Agenda Item
ITEM #11: SB1334 and HB1015
Position
Oppose
Testimony
<p>Hello Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,</p> <p>My name is Nanea Lo, and I first want to extend my gratitude for your service in navigating the complex land use decisions that will shape our islands, landscapes, and communities for generations to come.</p> <p>As you consider the 12 bills on today’s agenda, I urge you to prioritize the public interests you have been entrusted to protect—including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. Your role in maintaining the integrity of our land use decision-making process is critical to ensuring that these vital interests remain safeguarded.</p> <p>I strongly oppose SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only three individuals. With decisions affecting hundreds of acres of land—potentially endangering food and water security for future generations, as well as the environmental and cultural integrity of our islands—we must uphold the rigor and objectivity of the six-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments.</p> <p>Additionally, I urge you to oppose SB1079, HB502, SB1157, SB1334, and HB1015, as they would diminish the critical fact-finding and decision-making process that ensures Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with deep knowledge of the land are heard and recognized. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your kuleana in striking a careful balance between public interests and the long-term well-being of our ‘āina and people.</p> <p>Lastly, SB1114 and HB826 must be carefully scrutinized before allowing further encroachments into our agricultural district. These measures fail to fully consider the impact of district boundary amendments on food security and the future sustainability of our islands.</p> <p>I urge you to uphold the high level of care that our communities and our ‘āina deserve. Please stand firm in your kuleana and oppose these measures that would weaken essential public interest protections.</p> <p>Me ke aloha ‘āina, Nanea Lo Mō‘ili‘ili, HI 96826</p>

Executive Commission Member, Sierra Club of Hawai'i
Board Member, Hawai'i Workers Center
Kanaka Maoli / Lineal Descendant of the Hawaiian Kingdom

From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 6:53:10 PM



Name
Nanea Lo
Email
naneaclo@gmail.com
ZIP / Postal Code
96826
Representing
Self
Agenda Item
ITEM #12: SB740 and HB777
Position
Oppose
Testimony
<p>Hello Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,</p> <p>My name is Nanea Lo, and I first want to extend my gratitude for your service in navigating the complex land use decisions that will shape our islands, landscapes, and communities for generations to come.</p> <p>As you consider the 12 bills on today’s agenda, I urge you to prioritize the public interests you have been entrusted to protect—including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. Your role in maintaining the integrity of our land use decision-making process is critical to ensuring that these vital interests remain safeguarded.</p> <p>I strongly oppose SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only three individuals. With decisions affecting hundreds of acres of land—potentially endangering food and water security for future generations, as well as the environmental and cultural integrity of our islands—we must uphold the rigor and objectivity of the six-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments.</p> <p>Additionally, I urge you to oppose SB1079, HB502, SB1157, SB1334, and HB1015, as they would diminish the critical fact-finding and decision-making process that ensures Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with deep knowledge of the land are heard and recognized. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your kuleana in striking a careful balance between public interests and the long-term well-being of our ‘āina and people.</p> <p>Lastly, SB1114 and HB826 must be carefully scrutinized before allowing further encroachments into our agricultural district. These measures fail to fully consider the impact of district boundary amendments on food security and the future sustainability of our islands.</p> <p>I urge you to uphold the high level of care that our communities and our ‘āina deserve. Please stand firm in your kuleana and oppose these measures that would weaken essential public interest protections.</p> <p>Me ke aloha ‘āina, Nanea Lo Mō‘ili‘ili, HI 96826</p>

Executive Commission Member, Sierra Club of Hawai'i
Board Member, Hawai'i Workers Center
Kanaka Maoli / Lineal Descendant of the Hawaiian Kingdom



From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 6:53:52 PM

Name
Nanea Lo
Email
naneaclo@gmail.com
ZIP / Postal Code
96826
Representing
Self
Agenda Item
ITEM #13: HB826
Position
Oppose
Testimony
<p>Hello Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,</p> <p>My name is Nanea Lo, and I first want to extend my gratitude for your service in navigating the complex land use decisions that will shape our islands, landscapes, and communities for generations to come.</p> <p>As you consider the 12 bills on today’s agenda, I urge you to prioritize the public interests you have been entrusted to protect—including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. Your role in maintaining the integrity of our land use decision-making process is critical to ensuring that these vital interests remain safeguarded.</p> <p>I strongly oppose SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only three individuals. With decisions affecting hundreds of acres of land—potentially endangering food and water security for future generations, as well as the environmental and cultural integrity of our islands—we must uphold the rigor and objectivity of the six-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments.</p> <p>Additionally, I urge you to oppose SB1079, HB502, SB1157, SB1334, and HB1015, as they would diminish the critical fact-finding and decision-making process that ensures Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with deep knowledge of the land are heard and recognized. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your kuleana in striking a careful balance between public interests and the long-term well-being of our ‘āina and people.</p> <p>Lastly, SB1114 and HB826 must be carefully scrutinized before allowing further encroachments into our agricultural district. These measures fail to fully consider the impact of district boundary amendments on food security and the future sustainability of our islands.</p> <p>I urge you to uphold the high level of care that our communities and our ‘āina deserve. Please stand firm in your kuleana and oppose these measures that would weaken essential public interest protections.</p> <p>Me ke aloha ‘āina, Nanea Lo Mō‘ili‘ili, HI 96826</p>

Executive Commission Member, Sierra Club of Hawai'i
Board Member, Hawai'i Workers Center
Kanaka Maoli / Lineal Descendant of the Hawaiian Kingdom



From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 6:54:08 PM

Name
Nanea Lo
Email
naneaclo@gmail.com
ZIP / Postal Code
96826
Representing
Self
Agenda Item
ITEM #14: SB1332 and HB1013
Position
Oppose
Testimony
<p>Hello Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,</p> <p>My name is Nanea Lo, and I first want to extend my gratitude for your service in navigating the complex land use decisions that will shape our islands, landscapes, and communities for generations to come.</p> <p>As you consider the 12 bills on today’s agenda, I urge you to prioritize the public interests you have been entrusted to protect—including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. Your role in maintaining the integrity of our land use decision-making process is critical to ensuring that these vital interests remain safeguarded.</p> <p>I strongly oppose SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only three individuals. With decisions affecting hundreds of acres of land—potentially endangering food and water security for future generations, as well as the environmental and cultural integrity of our islands—we must uphold the rigor and objectivity of the six-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments.</p> <p>Additionally, I urge you to oppose SB1079, HB502, SB1157, SB1334, and HB1015, as they would diminish the critical fact-finding and decision-making process that ensures Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with deep knowledge of the land are heard and recognized. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your kuleana in striking a careful balance between public interests and the long-term well-being of our ‘āina and people.</p> <p>Lastly, SB1114 and HB826 must be carefully scrutinized before allowing further encroachments into our agricultural district. These measures fail to fully consider the impact of district boundary amendments on food security and the future sustainability of our islands.</p> <p>I urge you to uphold the high level of care that our communities and our ‘āina deserve. Please stand firm in your kuleana and oppose these measures that would weaken essential public interest protections.</p> <p>Me ke aloha ‘āina, Nanea Lo Mō‘ili‘ili, HI 96826</p>

Executive Commission Member, Sierra Club of Hawai'i
Board Member, Hawai'i Workers Center
Kanaka Maoli / Lineal Descendant of the Hawaiian Kingdom



From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 6:54:26 PM

Name
Nanea Lo
Email
naneaclo@gmail.com
ZIP / Postal Code
96826
Representing
Self
Agenda Item
ITEM #15: SB1099
Position
Oppose
Testimony
<p>Hello Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,</p> <p>My name is Nanea Lo, and I first want to extend my gratitude for your service in navigating the complex land use decisions that will shape our islands, landscapes, and communities for generations to come.</p> <p>As you consider the 12 bills on today’s agenda, I urge you to prioritize the public interests you have been entrusted to protect—including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. Your role in maintaining the integrity of our land use decision-making process is critical to ensuring that these vital interests remain safeguarded.</p> <p>I strongly oppose SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only three individuals. With decisions affecting hundreds of acres of land—potentially endangering food and water security for future generations, as well as the environmental and cultural integrity of our islands—we must uphold the rigor and objectivity of the six-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments.</p> <p>Additionally, I urge you to oppose SB1079, HB502, SB1157, SB1334, and HB1015, as they would diminish the critical fact-finding and decision-making process that ensures Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with deep knowledge of the land are heard and recognized. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your kuleana in striking a careful balance between public interests and the long-term well-being of our ‘āina and people.</p> <p>Lastly, SB1114 and HB826 must be carefully scrutinized before allowing further encroachments into our agricultural district. These measures fail to fully consider the impact of district boundary amendments on food security and the future sustainability of our islands.</p> <p>I urge you to uphold the high level of care that our communities and our ‘āina deserve. Please stand firm in your kuleana and oppose these measures that would weaken essential public interest protections.</p> <p>Me ke aloha ‘āina, Nanea Lo Mō‘ili‘ili, HI 96826</p>

Executive Commission Member, Sierra Club of Hawai'i
Board Member, Hawai'i Workers Center
Kanaka Maoli / Lineal Descendant of the Hawaiian Kingdom



From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 6:54:45 PM

Name
Nanea Lo
Email
naneaclo@gmail.com
ZIP / Postal Code
96826
Representing
Self
Agenda Item
ITEM #16: SB26 and HB 1451
Position
Oppose
Testimony
<p>Hello Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,</p> <p>My name is Nanea Lo, and I first want to extend my gratitude for your service in navigating the complex land use decisions that will shape our islands, landscapes, and communities for generations to come.</p> <p>As you consider the 12 bills on today’s agenda, I urge you to prioritize the public interests you have been entrusted to protect—including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. Your role in maintaining the integrity of our land use decision-making process is critical to ensuring that these vital interests remain safeguarded.</p> <p>I strongly oppose SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only three individuals. With decisions affecting hundreds of acres of land—potentially endangering food and water security for future generations, as well as the environmental and cultural integrity of our islands—we must uphold the rigor and objectivity of the six-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments.</p> <p>Additionally, I urge you to oppose SB1079, HB502, SB1157, SB1334, and HB1015, as they would diminish the critical fact-finding and decision-making process that ensures Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with deep knowledge of the land are heard and recognized. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your kuleana in striking a careful balance between public interests and the long-term well-being of our ‘āina and people.</p> <p>Lastly, SB1114 and HB826 must be carefully scrutinized before allowing further encroachments into our agricultural district. These measures fail to fully consider the impact of district boundary amendments on food security and the future sustainability of our islands.</p> <p>I urge you to uphold the high level of care that our communities and our ‘āina deserve. Please stand firm in your kuleana and oppose these measures that would weaken essential public interest protections.</p> <p>Me ke aloha ‘āina, Nanea Lo Mō‘ili‘ili, HI 96826</p>

Executive Commission Member, Sierra Club of Hawai'i
Board Member, Hawai'i Workers Center
Kanaka Maoli / Lineal Descendant of the Hawaiian Kingdom

From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 6:55:05 PM



Name
Nanea Lo
Email
naneaclo@gmail.com
ZIP / Postal Code
96826
Representing
Self
Agenda Item
ITEM #17: SB498 and HB1294
Position
Oppose
Testimony
<p>Hello Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,</p> <p>My name is Nanea Lo, and I first want to extend my gratitude for your service in navigating the complex land use decisions that will shape our islands, landscapes, and communities for generations to come.</p> <p>As you consider the 12 bills on today’s agenda, I urge you to prioritize the public interests you have been entrusted to protect—including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. Your role in maintaining the integrity of our land use decision-making process is critical to ensuring that these vital interests remain safeguarded.</p> <p>I strongly oppose SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only three individuals. With decisions affecting hundreds of acres of land—potentially endangering food and water security for future generations, as well as the environmental and cultural integrity of our islands—we must uphold the rigor and objectivity of the six-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments.</p> <p>Additionally, I urge you to oppose SB1079, HB502, SB1157, SB1334, and HB1015, as they would diminish the critical fact-finding and decision-making process that ensures Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with deep knowledge of the land are heard and recognized. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your kuleana in striking a careful balance between public interests and the long-term well-being of our ‘āina and people.</p> <p>Lastly, SB1114 and HB826 must be carefully scrutinized before allowing further encroachments into our agricultural district. These measures fail to fully consider the impact of district boundary amendments on food security and the future sustainability of our islands.</p> <p>I urge you to uphold the high level of care that our communities and our ‘āina deserve. Please stand firm in your kuleana and oppose these measures that would weaken essential public interest protections.</p> <p>Me ke aloha ‘āina, Nanea Lo Mō‘ili‘ili, HI 96826</p>

Executive Commission Member, Sierra Club of Hawai'i
Board Member, Hawai'i Workers Center
Kanaka Maoli / Lineal Descendant of the Hawaiian Kingdom



From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 6:55:25 PM

Name
Nanea Lo
Email
naneaclo@gmail.com
ZIP / Postal Code
96826
Representing
Self
Agenda Item
ITEM #18: SB197
Position
Oppose
Testimony
<p>Hello Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,</p> <p>My name is Nanea Lo, and I first want to extend my gratitude for your service in navigating the complex land use decisions that will shape our islands, landscapes, and communities for generations to come.</p> <p>As you consider the 12 bills on today’s agenda, I urge you to prioritize the public interests you have been entrusted to protect—including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. Your role in maintaining the integrity of our land use decision-making process is critical to ensuring that these vital interests remain safeguarded.</p> <p>I strongly oppose SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only three individuals. With decisions affecting hundreds of acres of land—potentially endangering food and water security for future generations, as well as the environmental and cultural integrity of our islands—we must uphold the rigor and objectivity of the six-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments.</p> <p>Additionally, I urge you to oppose SB1079, HB502, SB1157, SB1334, and HB1015, as they would diminish the critical fact-finding and decision-making process that ensures Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with deep knowledge of the land are heard and recognized. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your kuleana in striking a careful balance between public interests and the long-term well-being of our ‘āina and people.</p> <p>Lastly, SB1114 and HB826 must be carefully scrutinized before allowing further encroachments into our agricultural district. These measures fail to fully consider the impact of district boundary amendments on food security and the future sustainability of our islands.</p> <p>I urge you to uphold the high level of care that our communities and our ‘āina deserve. Please stand firm in your kuleana and oppose these measures that would weaken essential public interest protections.</p> <p>Me ke aloha ‘āina, Nanea Lo Mō‘ili‘ili, HI 96826</p>

Executive Commission Member, Sierra Club of Hawai'i
Board Member, Hawai'i Workers Center
Kanaka Maoli / Lineal Descendant of the Hawaiian Kingdom

From: [Sharde Freitas](#)
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony for Agenda Items 6-18
Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 7:12:27 PM



Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,

My name is Sharde Freitas and I first want to thank you for your service in helping navigate complex land use decisions that may impact our landscape, our islands, and our communities for decades if not generations.

As you consider your positions on the 12 bills agendized for discussion today, I urge you to consider the importance of the public interests you have been chosen to protect - including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. I also urge you to remember the critical LUC fact-finding and decision-making process that entails a much more rigorous, detailed, and politically objective means of striking a balance between these important public interests.

With decisions impacting dozens if not hundreds of acres of land at a time - decisions that could impact the food and water security of our children and grandchildren, and the environmental and cultural integrity of the islands they inherit - we must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments. **Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.**

Please also do not surrender your kuleana to ensure a close, objective, and granular analysis of land use changes, using a process that ensures the voices of Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with intimate familiarity of the land in question to be heard and explicitly recognized in decisionmaking. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your critical work when it comes to finding the best balance between critical public interests, and ensuring the high level of care that our ‘āina and our communities deserve. **Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding.**

Finally, many of these measures do not reflect a close understanding of the role of our land use districts or the district boundary amendment process that is highly expedited for affordable housing projects, yet still serve to safeguard public interests and needs from unintended consequences. **SB1114 and HB826 should be critically analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations' food security, is further compromised.**

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this testimony.

Sincerely,

Sharde Freitas

From: [Kupuna Moopuna](#)
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Cc: [Kupuna Moopuna](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] TESTIMONY February 5, 2025 - LUC - Agenda Items 6-18
Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 7:14:23 PM



Kūpuna for the Mo'opuna

committed to the well-being of Hawai'i for the next generations to come

kupuna4moopuna@gmail.com

State Land Use Commission

Wednesday, February 5, 2025, 10am

Testimony

Agenda Items 6-18

February 4, 2025

Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,

Kūpuna for the Mo'opuna, a network of Hawaiian Homes Commission Act kūpuna farmers from Pana'ewa, Hawai'i, **submit this testimony on Agenda Items 6-18**. We mahalo you for your service in helping navigate complex land use decisions that may impact our landscape, our islands, and our communities for the next generations to come.

As you consider your positions on the 12 bills agendized for discussion today, we urge you to consider the importance of the public interests you have been chosen to protect - including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. We also urge you to remember the critical LUC fact-finding and decision-making process that entails a much more rigorous, detailed, and politically objective means of striking a balance

between these important public interests.

With decisions impacting dozens if not hundreds of acres of land at a time - decisions that could impact the food and water security of our children and grandchildren, and the environmental and cultural integrity of the islands they inherit - we must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments. **Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.**

We implore you to not surrender your kuleana to ensure a close, objective, and granular analysis of land use changes, using a process that ensures the voices of Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with intimate familiarity of the land in question to be heard and explicitly recognized in decision making. The County General Plan process has been compromised and is no substitute for your critical work when it comes to finding the best balance between critical public interests, and ensuring the high level of care that our 'āina and our communities deserve. **Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding.**

Finally, many of these measures do not reflect a close understanding of the role of our land use districts or the district boundary amendment process that is highly expedited for affordable housing projects, yet still serve to safeguard public interests and needs from unintended consequences. **SB1114 and HB826 should be critically analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations' food security, is further compromised.**

Mahalo nui for your pono service in helping navigate complex land use decisions that may impact our landscape, our islands, our communities, and our people for the next generations to come.

Me ke aloha,
Nāko'olani Warrington
Kūpuna for the Mo'opuna, Mea Kākau
Pana'ewa, Hawai'i



From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 7:15:26 PM

Name
Janine Wiehl
Email
jawiehl@msn.com
ZIP / Postal Code
96789
Representing
self
Agenda Item
ITEM #6: SB28
Position
Oppose
Testimony
<p>Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,</p> <p>My name is Janine Wiehl and I first want to thank you for your service in helping navigate complex land use decisions that may impact our landscape, our islands, and our communities for decades if not generations.</p> <p>As you consider your positions on the 12 bills agendized for discussion today, I urge you to consider the importance of the public interests you have been chosen to protect - including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. I also urge you to remember the critical LUC fact-finding and decision-making process that entails a much more rigorous, detailed, and politically objective means of striking a balance between these important public interests.</p> <p>With decisions impacting dozens if not hundreds of acres of land at a time - decisions that could impact the food and water security of our children and grandchildren, and the environmental and cultural integrity of the islands they inherit - we must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments. Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.</p> <p>Please also do not surrender your kuleana to ensure a close, objective, and granular analysis of land use changes, using a process that ensures the voices of Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with intimate familiarity of the land in question to be heard and explicitly recognized in decision making. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your critical work when it comes to finding the best balance between critical public interests, and ensuring the high level of care that our ‘āina and our communities deserve. Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding.</p> <p>Finally, many of these measures do not reflect a close understanding of the role of our land use districts or the district boundary amendment process that is highly expedited for affordable housing projects, yet still serve to safeguard public interests and needs from unintended consequences. SB1114 and HB826 should be critically analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations’ food security, is further compromised. We can not grow on concrete.</p>

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this testimony.

Sincerely,
Ms. Janine Wiehl

From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 7:25:48 PM



Name
Aj Jaeger
Email
beyondthebeach1@mac.com
ZIP / Postal Code
96734
Agenda Item
ITEM #6: SB28
Position
Oppose
Testimony
Aloha and Mahalo for taking our lands and future sustainability into consideration. Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals. That is NOT how a democracy works, nor is it a good choice for Hawaii. -Aj Jaeger

From: [Kylie Hopkins](#)
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony for Agenda Items 6-18
Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 7:35:14 PM



Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,

My name is Kylie Hopkins, I am a student at the UHM majoring in Sustainability. I first want to thank you for your service in helping navigate complex land use decisions that may impact our landscape, our islands, and our communities for decades if not generations.

As you consider your positions on the 12 bills agendized for discussion today, I urge you to consider the importance of the public interests you have been chosen to protect - including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. I also urge you to remember the critical LUC fact-finding and decision-making process that entails a much more rigorous, detailed, and politically objective means of striking a balance between these important public interests.

With decisions impacting dozens if not hundreds of acres of land at a time - decisions that could impact the food and water security of myself, my family, my future children, and the environmental and cultural integrity of the islands they inherit - we must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments. **Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.**

Please also do not surrender your kuleana to ensure a close, objective, and granular analysis of land use changes, using a process that ensures the voices of Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with intimate familiarity of the land in question to be heard and explicitly recognized in decision making. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your critical work when it comes to finding the best balance between critical public interests, and ensuring the high level of care that our ‘āina and our communities deserve. **Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding.**

Finally, many of these measures do not reflect a close understanding of the role of our land use districts or the district boundary amendment process that is highly expedited for affordable housing projects, yet still serve to safeguard public interests and needs from unintended consequences. **SB1114 and HB826 should be critically analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations’ food security, is**

further compromised.

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this testimony.

Kylie Hopkins

kyliehop@hawaii.edu

From: [Samantha Nelson](#)
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony for Agenda Items 6-18
Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 8:06:46 PM



Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,

My name is Sam Nelson and I first want to thank you for your service in helping navigate complex land use decisions that may impact our landscape, our islands, and our communities for decades if not generations.

As you consider your positions on the 12 bills agendized for discussion today, I urge you to consider the importance of the public interests you have been chosen to protect - including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. I also urge you to remember the critical LUC fact-finding and decision-making process that entails a much more rigorous, detailed, and politically objective means of striking a balance between these important public interests.

*With decisions impacting dozens if not hundreds of acres of land at a time - decisions that could impact the food and water security of our children and grandchildren, and the environmental and cultural integrity of the islands they inherit - we must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments. **Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.***

*Please also do not surrender your kuleana to ensure a close, objective, and granular analysis of land use changes, using a process that ensures the voices of Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with intimate familiarity with the land in question to be heard and explicitly recognized in decision making. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your critical work when it comes to finding the best balance between critical public interests and ensuring the high level of care that our ‘āina and our communities deserve. **Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding.***

*Finally, many of these measures do not reflect a close understanding of the role of our land use districts or the district boundary amendment process that is highly expedited for affordable housing projects, yet still serve to safeguard public interests and needs from unintended consequences. **SB1114 and HB826 should be critically analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations’ food security, is***

further compromised.

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this testimony.

From: wliggett@twc.com
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony for Agenda Items 6-18
Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 8:24:46 PM



Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,

My name is William Reese Liggett and I first want to thank you for your service in helping navigate complex land use decisions that may impact our landscape, our islands, and our communities for decades if not generations.

As you consider your positions on the 12 bills agendized for discussion today, I urge you to consider the importance of the public interests you have been chosen to protect - including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. I also urge you to remember the critical LUC fact-finding and decision-making process that entails a much more rigorous, detailed, and politically objective means of striking a balance between these important public interests.

*With decisions impacting dozens if not hundreds of acres of land at a time - decisions that could impact the food and water security of our children and grandchildren, and the environmental and cultural integrity of the islands they inherit - we must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments. **Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.***

*Please also do not surrender your kuleana to ensure a close, objective, and granular analysis of land use changes, using a process that ensures the voices of Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with intimate familiarity of the land in question to be heard and explicitly recognized in decision-making. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your critical work when it comes to finding the best balance between critical public interests, and ensuring the high level of care that our 'āina and our communities deserve. **Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding.***

*Finally, many of these measures do not reflect a close understanding of the role of our land use districts or the district boundary amendment process that is highly expedited for affordable housing projects, yet still serve to safeguard public interests and needs from unintended consequences. **SB1114 and HB826 should be critically analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations food security, is further compromised.***

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this testimony.

□ _____

William Reese Liggett

Help Protect and Recover the

Natural & Cultural Features of Wāwāmalu Beach!

808 732 4489n 808 222 2088c





From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 8:33:57 PM

Name
Nadine Ferraro
Email
nadineferraro@mac.com
ZIP / Postal Code
96822
Representing
Self
Agenda Item
ITEM #6: SB28
Position
Oppose
Testimony
Aloha Land Use Commission, I respectfully oppose SB28! Nadine Ferraro

From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 8:34:04 PM



Name
Nadine Ferraro
Email
nadineferraro@mac.com
ZIP / Postal Code
96822
Representing
Self
Agenda Item
ITEM #8: SB1079 and HB502
Position
Oppose
Testimony
Aloha Land Use Commission, I respectfully oppose SB1079 and HB502. Nadine Ferraro

From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 8:34:34 PM



Name
Nadine Ferraro
Email
nadineferraro@mac.com
ZIP / Postal Code
96822
Representing
Self
Agenda Item
ITEM #10: SB1157
Position
Oppose
Testimony
Aloha Land Use Commission, I respectfully oppose SB1157. Nadine Ferraro



From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 8:36:26 PM

Name
Nadine Ferraro
Email
nadineferraro@mac.com
ZIP / Postal Code
96822
Representing
Self
Agenda Item
ITEM #11: SB1334 and HB1015
Position
Oppose
Testimony
Aloha Land Use Commission, I respectfully oppose SB1334 and HB1015. Nadine Ferraro

From: [Diane Ware](#)
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] LUC agenda 2/5/2025, bills for discussion
Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 8:55:30 PM



Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,

My name is Diane Ware and I first want to thank you for your service in helping navigate complex land use decisions that may impact our landscape, our islands, and our communities for decades if not generations.

As you consider your positions on the 12 bills on the LUC agenda for discussion today 2/5/2025, I urge you to consider the importance of the public interests you have been chosen to protect - including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. I also urge you to remember the critical LUC fact-finding and decision-making process that entails a much more rigorous, detailed, and politically objective means of striking a balance between these important public interests.

*With decisions impacting dozens if not hundreds of acres of land at a time - decisions that could impact the food and water security of our children and grandchildren, and the environmental and cultural integrity of the islands they inherit - we must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments. **Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.***

*Please also do not surrender your kuleana to ensure a close, objective, and granular analysis of land use changes, using a process that ensures the voices of Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with intimate familiarity of the land in question to be heard and explicitly recognized in decisionmaking. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your critical work when it comes to finding the best balance between critical public interests, and ensuring the high level of care that our 'āina and our communities deserve. **Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding.***

*Finally, many of these measures do not reflect a close understanding of the role of our land use districts or the district boundary amendment process that is highly expedited for affordable housing projects, yet still serve to safeguard public interests and needs from unintended consequences. **SB1114 and HB826 should be critically analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations' food security, is***

further compromised.

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this testimony.

Diane Ware
808-967-8642
P. O. Box 698
99-7815 Kapoha
Volcano HI 96785



SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAI'I



LAND USE COMMISSION

Testimony on Agenda Items 6-11 and 13
February 5, 2025
9:30 a.m.

Leiopapa A Kamehameha, State Office Tower, Room 405

Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and Members of the Land Use Commission,

On behalf of our over 20,000 members and supporters, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i offers the following comments on the legislative measures you will be considering taking a position on today, as reflected in agenda items 6-11 and 13.

Agenda item 6 (SB28). This measure would allow a vote of just 3 of a quorum of 5 commissioners to decide on vast land use changes that may impact critically important areas of public need – including food security, water security and watershed health, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, affordable housing, climate resilience, and more – for generations going forward. Given the stakes at play and the need for multiple perspectives and thoughtfulness in protecting and balancing these areas of need, the Land Use Commission should retain its high standard of care currently reflected in the 6 vote requirement for district boundary amendments. The Commission should NOT endorse this proposal.

Agenda item 7 (SB36), 8 (SB1079 and HB502), 10 (SB1157), and 11 (SB1334 and HB1015): To the extent these measures believe that the county general planning process and county council decisionmaking are a fair substitute for the careful, accountable, transparent, and politically insulated process used by the Land Use Commission, they are wrong. County general plans and county land use decisionmaking, while allowing for public testimony, do not provide for the taking of expert testimony – including that of Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practitioners – the cross examination of witnesses, and the building of an evidentiary record that is then explicitly considered in the balancing of public needs and interests described above. The current county practice of taking public testimony and then rendering a decision provides little transparency on how those decisions are made, what countervailing concerns were considered or addressed, what weight was given to any particular testifier or piece of information provided, etc. To the extent that these measures view county decisionmaking as a substitute for the careful, transparent, and relatively objective Land Use Commission district boundary amendment process, they are mistaken – and could lead to unintended and avoidable consequences for our children and future generations. The Commission should NOT endorse these measures without careful study of and specific comparisons between current and their respective proposed new land use district boundary amendment processes.

Agenda item 9 (SB1114) and 13 (HB826): While there are certainly likely to be agricultural district lands that may be suitably redistricted for housing, there are existing

processes with expeditious timelines to do so. These processes – which have deadlines as short as 45 days for affordable housing projects – can ensure any redistricting decisions adequately consider potential unintended consequences including avoidable or mitigable decades-long impacts to Native Hawaiian traditional and customary rights, adjacent agricultural activities, etc. Continuing to carve out exceptions for the authorization of primarily residential uses of agricultural district lands may not only result in the loss of these expedited but protective procedures, but may also lead to even further speculation and inappropriate land uses – such as the proliferation of “gentlemen farm” estates – that make bona fide farming unaffordable, drive up land (and housing) costs across the board, and compromise the food security and water security of our communities, including future generations. The Commission should NOT endorse these measures without specifically and explicitly considering the impacts that they may have on existing public interests and processes, including impacts to local agriculture, food security, public trust resources, Native Hawaiian rights, and land prices, among others.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify

From: [Pete Wilson](#)
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Hawa'i Land Use Commission
Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 9:45:21 PM



Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,

My name is **Peter Wilson** and I first want to thank you for your service in helping navigate complex land use decisions that may impact our landscape, our islands, and our communities for decades if not generations.

As you consider your positions on the 12 bills agendized for discussion today, I urge you to consider the importance of the public interests you have been chosen to protect - including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. I also urge you to remember the critical LUC fact-finding and decision-making process that entails a much more rigorous, detailed, and politically objective means of striking a balance between these important public interests.

With decisions impacting dozens if not hundreds of acres of land at a time - decisions that could impact the food and water security of our children and grandchildren, and the environmental and cultural integrity of the islands they inherit - we must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments. **Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.**

Please also do not surrender your kuleana to ensure a close, objective, and granular analysis of land use changes, using a process that ensures the voices of Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with intimate familiarity of the land in question to be heard and explicitly recognized in decisionmaking. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your critical work when it comes to finding the best balance between critical public interests, and ensuring the high level of care that our ‘āina and our communities deserve. **Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding.**

Finally, many of these measures do not reflect a close understanding of the role of our land use districts or the district boundary amendment process that is highly expedited for affordable housing projects, yet still serve to safeguard public interests and needs from unintended consequences. **SB1114 and HB826 should be critically analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations‘ food security, is further compromised.**

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this testimony.

Sincerely,
Peter Wilson

--

Pete Wilson
13-927 Kahukai Street
Pahoa HI 96778
808-557-8108

From: [Patti Choy](#)
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony for Agenda Items 6-18
Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 10:13:25 PM



Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,

Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.

Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding.

Many of these measures do not reflect a close understanding of the role of our land use districts or the district boundary amendment process that is highly expedited for affordable housing projects, yet still serve to safeguard public interests and needs from unintended consequences. **SB1114 and HB826 should be critically analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations’ food security, is further compromised.**

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Patti Choy
Shut Down Red Hill
Not Pau Yet!



From: [Patrick Kahawaiolaa](#)
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Cc: sharde.freitas@sierraclub.org; [Ron & Doreen Kodani](#); [Louis Hao](#); [Duncan Kaohu Seto](#); [Eloise Pung](#); [Napua Johansen](#); [La Verne Lucero \(lucero.laverne@gmail.com\)](mailto:lucero.laverne@gmail.com); [Luana Kawelu](#); [Ah Lun Yung](#); [Terri Napeahi](#); [Kau'ilani Alameda](#); CSpillman@hawaii.rr.com; [U'ilani Naipo](#); [CAPITOL2023-reptodd](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony
Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 4:44:08 AM

Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,

My name is Pat Kahawaiolaa, I am a native Hawaiian, defined pursuant to the HHCA, 1920, amended July 9, 1921, (42, 42 stat. 108) 67th Congress and a committee member of Komike O Kūpuna 'Ainahoopulapula (KOKA), a native organization representing na Kupuna who are beneficiaries of the Trust, created by an Act of Congress, incorporated in the Admissions Act, Article XII, Sec. 4, (PL 83-6, 73 stat. 4) March 18, 1959, whereby the State and its people will uphold the Hawaiian race...I am submitting this testimony on behalf of our Iku Ha'i Louis Hao and those native Hawaiian Kupuna still languishing on the DHHL waitlist... for their small piece of KUHIO's LEGACY...

I first want to thank you for your service in helping navigate complex land use decisions that may impact our landscape, our islands, and our communities for decades if not generations.

As you consider your positions on the 12 bills agendized for discussion today, I urge you to consider the importance of the public interests you have been chosen to protect - including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. I also urge you to remember the critical LUC fact-finding and decision-making process that entails a much more rigorous, detailed, and politically objective means of striking a balance between these important public interests.

With decisions impacting dozens if not hundreds of acres of land at a time - decisions that could impact the food and water security of our children and grandchildren, and the environmental and cultural integrity of the islands they inherit - we must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments.

Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.

Please also do not surrender your kuleana to ensure a close, objective, and granular analysis of land use changes, using a process that ensures the voices of

Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with intimate familiarity of the land in question to be heard and explicitly recognized in decisionmaking. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your critical work when it comes to finding the best balance between critical public interests, and ensuring the high level of care that our 'āina and our communities deserve.

Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding.

Finally, many of these measures do not reflect a close understanding of the role of our land use districts or the district boundary amendment process that is highly expedited for affordable housing projects, yet still serve to safeguard public interests and needs from unintended consequences.

SB1114 and HB826 should be critically analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations' food security, is further compromised.

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this testimony.

I remain,
Pat Kahawaiolaa
Advocate, Komike O Kūpuna 'Ainahoopulapula

PK

From: [Wailua Lind](#)
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony for Agenda Items 6-18
Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 5:44:37 AM



Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,

My name is Wailua Lind and I first want to thank you for your service in helping navigate complex land use decisions that may impact our landscape, our islands, and our communities for decades if not generations.

As you consider your positions on the 12 bills agendized for discussion today, I urge you to consider the importance of the public interests you have been chosen to protect - including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. I also urge you to remember the critical LUC fact-finding and decision-making process that entails a much more rigorous, detailed, and politically objective means of striking a balance between these important public interests.

With decisions impacting dozens if not hundreds of acres of land at a time - decisions that could impact the food and water security of our children and grandchildren, and the environmental and cultural integrity of the islands they inherit - we must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments. **Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.**

Please also do not surrender your kuleana to ensure a close, objective, and granular analysis of land use changes, using a process that ensures the voices of Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with intimate familiarity of the land in question to be heard and explicitly recognized in decisionmaking. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your critical work when it comes to finding the best balance between critical public interests, and ensuring the high level of care that our 'āina and our communities deserve. **Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding.**

Finally, many of these measures do not reflect a close understanding of the role of our land use districts or the district boundary amendment process that is highly expedited for affordable housing projects, yet still serve to safeguard public interests and needs from unintended consequences. **SB1114 and HB826 should be critically analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations' food security, is further compromised.**

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this testimony.

Sincerely,

Wailua Lind

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Bianca Isaki](#)
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony on agenda items re legislation
Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 5:53:25 AM



Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,

Thank you for your service in helping navigate complex land use decisions that may impact our landscape, our islands, and our communities for decades if not generations.

As you consider your positions on the 12 bills agendized for discussion today, I urge you to consider the importance of the public interests you have been chosen to protect - including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. I also urge you to remember the critical LUC fact-finding and decision-making process that entails a much more rigorous, detailed, and politically objective means of striking a balance between these important public interests.

With decisions impacting dozens if not hundreds of acres of land at a time - decisions that could impact the food and water security of our children and grandchildren, and the environmental and cultural integrity of the islands they inherit - we must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments. Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.

Please also do not surrender your kuleana to ensure a close, objective, and granular analysis of land use changes, using a process that ensures the voices of Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with intimate familiarity of the land in question to be heard and explicitly recognized in decisionmaking. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your critical work when it comes to finding the best balance between critical public interests, and ensuring the high level of care that our ‘āina and our communities deserve. Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding.

Finally, many of these measures do not reflect a close understanding of the role of our land use districts or the district boundary amendment process that is highly expedited for affordable housing projects, yet still serve to safeguard public interests and needs from unintended consequences. SB1114 and HB826 should be critically analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations‘ food security, is further compromised.

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this testimony.

Bianca Isaki

From: [Barbara Barry](#)
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony for Agenda Items 5-18
Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 6:02:46 AM



Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,

My name is Barbara Barry and I first want to thank you for your service in helping navigate complex land use decisions that may impact our landscape, our islands, and our communities for decades if not generations.

As you consider your positions on the 12 bills agendized for discussion today, I urge you to consider the importance of the public interests you have been chosen to protect - including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. I also urge you to remember the critical LUC fact-finding and decision-making process that entails a much more rigorous, detailed, and politically objective means of striking a balance between these important public interests.

With decisions impacting dozens if not hundreds of acres of land at a time - decisions that could impact the food and water security of our children and grandchildren, and the environmental and cultural integrity of the islands they inherit - we must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments. **Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.**

Please also do not surrender your kuleana to ensure a close, objective, and granular analysis of land use changes, using a process that ensures the voices of Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with intimate familiarity of the land in question to be heard and explicitly recognized in decisionmaking. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your critical work when it comes to finding the best balance between critical public interests, and ensuring the high level of care that our ‘āina and our communities deserve. **Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding.**

Finally, many of these measures do not reflect a close understanding of the role of our land use districts or the district boundary amendment process that is highly expedited for affordable housing projects, yet still serve to safeguard public interests and needs from unintended consequences. **SB1114 and HB826 should be critically analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations’ food security, is further compromised.**

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this testimony.

Sincerely,
Barbara Barry
Ha'ikū, Hawai'i

From: [nan.harter](mailto:nan.harter@hawaii.gov)
To: [DBEDT.LUC](mailto:DBEDT.LUC@hawaii.gov)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony for Agenda Items 6-18
Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 6:14:07 AM



-mail: dbedt.luc.web@hawaii.gov

Subject: Testimony for Agenda Items 6-18

Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,

My name is Nancy Harter from Lahaina and I first want to thank you for your service in helping navigate complex land use decisions that may impact our landscape, our islands, and our communities for decades if not generations.

As you consider your positions on the 12 bills agendized for discussion today, I urge you to consider the importance of the public interests you have been chosen to protect - including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. I also urge you to remember the critical LUC fact-finding and decision-making process that entails a much more rigorous, detailed, and politically objective means of striking a balance between these important public interests.

With decisions impacting dozens if not hundreds of acres of land at a time - decisions that could impact the food and water security of our children and grandchildren, and the environmental and cultural integrity of the islands they inherit - we must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments. **Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.**

Please also do not surrender your kuleana to ensure a close, objective, and granular analysis of land use changes, using a process that ensures the voices of Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with intimate familiarity of the land in question to be heard and explicitly recognized in decisionmaking. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your critical work when it comes to finding the best balance between critical public interests, and ensuring the high level of

care that our 'āina and our communities deserve. **Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding.**

Finally, many of these measures do not reflect a close understanding of the role of our land use districts or the district boundary amendment process that is highly expedited for affordable housing projects, yet still serve to safeguard public interests and needs from unintended consequences. **SB1114 and HB826 should be critically analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations' food security, is further compromised.**

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this testimony.

Sincerely,
Nancy Harter

From: [Stacey Alapai](#)
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony for Agenda Items 6-18
Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 6:36:06 AM



Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,

My name is Stacey and I first want to thank you for your service in helping navigate complex land use decisions that may impact our landscape, our islands, and our communities for decades if not generations.

As you consider your positions on the 12 bills agendized for discussion today, I urge you to consider the importance of the public interests you have been chosen to protect - including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. I also urge you to remember the critical LUC fact-finding and decision-making process that entails a much more rigorous, detailed, and politically objective means of striking a balance between these important public interests.

With decisions impacting dozens if not hundreds of acres of land at a time - decisions that could impact the food and water security of our children and grandchildren, and the environmental and cultural integrity of the islands they inherit - we must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments. **Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.**

Please also do not surrender your kuleana to ensure a close, objective, and granular analysis of land use changes, using a process that ensures the voices of Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with intimate familiarity of the land in question to be heard and explicitly recognized in decisionmaking. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your critical work when it comes to finding the best balance between critical public interests, and ensuring the high level of care that our ‘āina and our communities deserve. **Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding.**

Finally, many of these measures do not reflect a close understanding of the role of our land use districts or the district boundary amendment process that is highly expedited for affordable housing projects, yet still serve to safeguard public interests and needs from unintended consequences. **SB1114 and HB826 should be critically analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations’ food security, is further compromised.**

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this testimony.

Sincerely,
Stacey Alapai

From: [Harvey Arkin](#)
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony for Agenda Items 6-18
Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 7:50:39 AM



Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,

My name is Harvey Arkin and I first want to thank you for your service in helping navigate complex land use decisions that may impact our landscape, our islands, and our communities for decades if not generations.

As you consider your positions on the 12 bills agendized for discussion today, I urge you to consider the importance of the public interests you have been chosen to protect - including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. I also urge you to remember the critical LUC fact-finding and decision-making process that entails a much more rigorous, detailed, and politically objective means of striking a balance between these important public interests.

With decisions impacting dozens if not hundreds of acres of land at a time - decisions that could impact the food and water security of our children and grandchildren, and the environmental and cultural integrity of the islands they inherit - we must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments. **Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.**

Please also do not surrender your kuleana to ensure a close, objective, and granular analysis of land use changes, using a process that ensures the voices of Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with intimate familiarity of the land in question to be heard and explicitly recognized in decisionmaking. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your critical work when it comes to finding the best balance between critical public interests, and ensuring the high level of care that our 'āina and our communities deserve. **Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding.**

Finally, many of these measures do not reflect a close understanding of the role of our land use districts or the district boundary amendment process that is highly expedited for affordable housing projects, yet still serve to safeguard public interests and needs from unintended consequences. **SB1114 and HB826 should be critically analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations' food security, is further compromised.**

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this testimony.

Sincerely,
Harvey Arkin

From: [Audrey Allencastre](#)
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony for Agenda Items 6-18
Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 8:17:57 AM



kule.ana

nvt. Right, privilege, concern, responsibility, title, business, property, estate, portion, jurisdiction, authority, liability, interest, claim, ownership, tenure, affair, province; reason, cause, function, justification; small piece of property, as within an ahupua'a; blood relative through whom a relationship to less close relatives is traced, as to in-laws. Cf. 'ākuleana. Kuleana lako, supplies, equipment. Kuleana pule, necessary prayers, prayer responsibilities. Ke kuleuna o ke kanaka, man's rights and privileges, human rights. Kuleana wai, water rights. Ka ho'olimalima kuleana kū'ai, rental with the right to buy. Kō ha'i kuleana, other persons' affairs or business. Kuleana ala hele e hiki aku ai, right of way of access. Make wale nō lākou me ka hewa 'ole, a me ke kuleana 'ole no ka make (Kep. 147), they were killed without having done wrong, and without justification for death. 'O Hina kō mākou kuleana, 'a'ole 'o ke kāne, we are related through Hina, not through the husband. Kuleana hapakolu o ka wahine kāne make, dower right of widow to a third of an estate. Kuleana o ke kāne male, estate by courtesy, of a husband's right in the estate of his wife. 'Elua lo'i 'ai, ua kuleana 'ia e a'u, two taro patches claimed as kuleana by me [will]. ho'o.kule.ana To entitle, give right to possess; to give a responsibility. Palapala ho'okuleana, patent, copyright.

Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-'Ōhelo, and members of the Commission:

My name is Audrey Allencastre, a local born third generation Okinawan from the island of Maui. Of course you must recognize that the content of this letter is from the Sierra Club of Hawai'i, but I wholeheartedly agree. And also, I added the above meaning to kuleana not to insult you ("What, she think we don't know the meaning! How rude."), but just as a reference and reminder.

I first want to thank you for your service in helping navigate complex land use decisions that may impact our landscape, our islands, and our communities for decades if not generations.

As you consider your positions on the 12 bills agendized for discussion today, I urge you to consider the importance of the public interests you have been chosen to protect - including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. I also urge you to remember the critical LUC fact-finding and decision-making process that entails a much more rigorous, detailed, and

politically objective means of striking a balance between these important public interests.

With decisions impacting dozens if not hundreds of acres of land at a time - decisions that could impact the food and water security of our children and grandchildren, and the environmental and cultural integrity of the islands they inherit - we must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments. **Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.**

Please also do not surrender your kuleana to ensure a close, objective, and granular analysis of land use changes, using a process that ensures the voices of Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with intimate familiarity of the land in question to be heard and explicitly recognized in decision making. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your critical work when it comes to finding the best balance between critical public interests, and ensuring the high level of care that our 'āina and our communities deserve. **Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding.**

Finally, many of these measures do not reflect a close understanding of the role of our land use districts or the district boundary amendment process that is highly expedited for affordable housing projects, yet still serve to safeguard public interests and needs from unintended consequences. **SB1114 and HB826 should be critically analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations' food security, is further compromised.**

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this testimony.

Sincerely,
Audrey Allencastre

From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 8:36:17 AM



Name
Mina Elison
Email
Minaelison@hotmail.com
ZIP / Postal Code
96704
Representing
Self
Agenda Item
ITEM #6: SB28
Position
Oppose
Testimony
<p>Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,</p> <p>My name is Mina Elison and I first want to thank you for your service in helping navigate complex land use decisions that may impact our landscape, our islands, and our communities for decades if not generations.</p> <p>As you consider your positions on the 12 bills agendized for discussion today, I urge you to consider the importance of the public interests you have been chosen to protect - including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. I also urge you to remember the critical LUC fact-finding and decision-making process that entails a much more rigorous, detailed, and politically objective means of striking a balance between these important public interests.</p> <p>With decisions impacting dozens if not hundreds of acres of land at a time - decisions that could impact the food and water security of our children and grandchildren, and the environmental and cultural integrity of the islands they inherit - we must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments. Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.</p> <p>Please also do not surrender your kuleana to ensure a close, objective, and granular analysis of land use changes, using a process that ensures the voices of Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with intimate familiarity of the land in question to be heard and explicitly recognized in decisionmaking. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your critical work when it comes to finding the best balance between critical public interests, and ensuring the high level of care that our ‘āina and our communities deserve. Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding.</p> <p>Finally, many of these measures do not reflect a close understanding of the role of our land use districts or the district boundary amendment process that is highly expedited for affordable housing projects, yet still serve to safeguard public interests and needs from unintended consequences. SB1114 and HB826 should be critically analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations’ food security, is further compromised.</p>

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this testimony.

Sincerely,
Mina Elison

From: [Mina Elison](#)
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony for Agenda Items 6-18
Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 8:39:30 AM



Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,

My name is Mina Elison and I first want to thank you for your service in helping navigate complex land use decisions that may impact our landscape, our islands, and our communities for decades if not generations.

As you consider your positions on the 12 bills agendized for discussion today, I urge you to consider the importance of the public interests you have been chosen to protect - including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. I also urge you to remember the critical LUC fact-finding and decision-making process that entails a much more rigorous, detailed, and politically objective means of striking a balance between these important public interests.

With decisions impacting dozens if not hundreds of acres of land at a time - decisions that could impact the food and water security of our children and grandchildren, and the environmental and cultural integrity of the islands they inherit - we must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments. **Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.**

Please also do not surrender your kuleana to ensure a close, objective, and granular analysis of land use changes, using a process that ensures the voices of Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with intimate familiarity of the land in question to be heard and explicitly recognized in decisionmaking. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your critical work when it comes to finding the best balance between critical public interests, and ensuring the high level of care that our ‘āina and our communities deserve. **Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding.**

Finally, many of these measures do not reflect a close understanding of the role of our land use districts or the district boundary amendment process that is highly expedited for affordable housing projects, yet still serve to safeguard public interests and needs from unintended consequences. **SB1114 and HB826 should be critically analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations’ food security, is further compromised.**

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this testimony.

Sincerely,
Mina Elison

From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 8:42:04 AM



Name
Healani Sonoda-Pale
Email
kalahui1893@gmail.com
ZIP / Postal Code
96821
Representing
Ka Lāhui Hawai'i
Agenda Item
ITEM #6: SB28
Position
Oppose
Testimony
<p>Aloha e Chair Dan Giovanni, First Vice Chair Michael Yamane, and Second Vice Chair Kū'ikeokalani Kamakea-Ōhelo,</p> <p>Ka Lāhui Hawai'i writes to you today with deep concern for the future of our 'āina and the well-being of our people and future generations. We urge you to uphold your statutory responsibilities and maintain your critical role in safeguarding the public interest in major land use decisions. Now, more than ever, the Land Use Commission (LUC) must stand firm in its kuleana and ensure that Hawai'i's lands are stewarded with care, foresight, and respect for the needs of its people.</p> <p>The LUC was established to ensure that land use decisions align with the state constitution, laws, and the best interests of Hawai'i's communities. Your role is to carefully evaluate land use plans, environmental impacts, and long-term sustainability considerations, including the protection of Kanaka Maoli traditional and customary practices, food security, climate resilience, affordable housing, and public trust resources.</p> <p>The devastating Lahaina fires of August 2023 serve as a tragic reminder of what is at stake. Thoughtful and deliberate land use planning is not just a necessity—it is a responsibility. Reckless development and the depletion of our natural and cultural resources must not be allowed to continue without the thorough oversight and guidance that the LUC was created to provide.</p> <p>Opposition to Harmful Land Use Bills Ka Lāhui Hawai'i strongly OPPOSES the following bills, which threaten the LUC's ability to protect Hawai'i's lands, resources, and people:</p> <p>SB28 – Weakening LUC Decision-Making</p> <p>Lowers the voting requirement for LUC boundary amendments from a supermajority to a simple majority, reducing oversight and allowing land use changes with minimal public accountability. This bill prioritizes development interests over community voices, Kanaka Maoli land rights, and responsible land stewardship.</p> <p>SB1079 & HB502 – Redistricting Agricultural Lands to Rural Lands</p> <p>Allows counties to reclassify small-lot agricultural lands as rural lands, opening the door for urbanization and speculative development. This undermines food security and paves the way for gentrification and loss of access to 'āina for local communities.</p>

SB1114 – Allowing Elderly Housing on Agricultural Lands

Permits large agricultural landowners (30+ acres) to convert up to 15 acres into elderly housing, assisted living, or apartments.

While senior housing is important, this measure weakens protections for agricultural land and can be exploited for commercial development rather than true affordable housing.

SB1157, SB1334 & HB1015 – Weakening Public Interest Protections

These bills limit LUC authority, making it easier for large-scale development projects to bypass essential oversight.

This fast-tracking approach prioritizes developers over environmental protections, cultural sites, and community well-being.

SB427 – Restricting Public Land Leases

Prohibits the State from leasing public lands to entities that owe money, violate environmental laws, or have criminal convictions.

While accountability is necessary, this bill could disproportionately impact small Native Hawaiian land users while failing to hold large corporations truly accountable.

Ka Lāhui Hawai‘i is deeply troubled by recent discussions within the LUC, where some Commissioners have expressed a willingness to support legislation that would weaken the Commission’s authority. These bills would remove critical protections and threaten Kanaka Maoli rights, public trust resources, and the long-term sustainability of our islands.

We strongly urge you to OPPOSE these harmful measures and uphold your kuleana to Hawai‘i’s people, lands, and future generations.

Me ka ‘ōia‘i‘o,
Ka Lāhui Hawai‘i

From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 8:46:52 AM



Name

Sadie Green

Email

sadie.aer.green@gmail.com

ZIP / Postal Code

96708

Representing

Self

Agenda Item

ITEM #6: SB28

Position

Oppose

Testimony

Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and esteemed Commission members,

My name is Sadie, I’m a Maui resident, and I deeply appreciate your dedication to navigating the intricate land use decisions that shape the future of our islands and communities.

As you deliberate on the twelve bills before you today, I urge you to uphold the public interests entrusted to your care—ensuring food security, preserving Native Hawaiian traditions, safeguarding public trust resources, enhancing climate resilience, promoting affordable housing, and supporting local employment.

The Land Use Commission's rigorous fact-finding and decision-making processes are vital for maintaining a balanced approach to these critical issues. Decisions affecting vast tracts of land have long-term implications for our environment, culture, and the well-being of future generations.

I respectfully request that you oppose measure SB28, which proposes that a simple majority of affirmative votes of the Land Use Commission (LUC) members present at a meeting and qualified to vote is sufficient for any boundary amendment. This change would allow significant land use decisions with broad public impacts to be approved by as few as three individuals, thereby compromising the integrity of Hawai‘i's land use decision-making process. Such a concentration of decision-making power diminishes the diversity of perspectives considered and undermines the comprehensive evaluations necessary to balance development with environmental, cultural, and community interests. The LUC's current process is designed to ensure fair, thorough, and accountable land use decisions that protect Hawai‘i's limited resources, cultural heritage, and public trust. Weakening this process by reducing the number of required approvals could lead to unchecked development, potentially harming communities and ecosystems.

Furthermore, please resist ceding your kuleana to ensure thorough, objective analyses of land use changes. The County General Plan process cannot substitute the Commission's essential role in balancing public interests and honoring the voices of Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners. Therefore, I urge you to oppose measures such as SB1079, HB502, SB1157, SB1334, and HB1015, which may undermine the public interest protections you are committed to upholding.

Lastly, I encourage a critical examination of SB1114 and HB826 to prevent unintended consequences that could compromise our agricultural districts and, by extension, the food security of future generations.

Mahalo nui loa for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

Sadie Green
Haiku, Maui

From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 8:50:52 AM



Name

Susan Stayton

Email

susan.stayton@gmail.com

ZIP / Postal Code

96765

Representing

Self

Agenda Item

ITEM #6: SB28

Position

Oppose

Testimony

Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,

My name is Susan Stayton and I first want to thank you for your service in helping navigate complex land use decisions that may impact our landscape, our islands, and our communities for decades if not generations. I moved to Hawaii 37 years ago from the mainland and have seen how devastating unwise Land Use can be for communities. Your committee is a guard against rampant and money focused development. Please don't let Hawaii become like the mainland. It is precious and we must keep it that way.

As you consider your positions on the 12 bills agendized for discussion today, I urge you to consider the importance of the public interests you have been chosen to protect - including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. I also urge you to remember the critical LUC fact-finding and decision-making process that entails a much more rigorous, detailed, and politically objective means of striking a balance between these important public interests.

With decisions impacting dozens if not hundreds of acres of land at a time - decisions that could impact the food and water security of our children and grandchildren, and the environmental and cultural integrity of the islands they inherit - we must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments. Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.

Please also do not surrender your kuleana to ensure a close, objective, and granular analysis of land use changes, using a process that ensures the voices of Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with intimate familiarity of the land in question to be heard and explicitly recognized in decisionmaking. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your critical work when it comes to finding the best balance between critical public interests, and ensuring the high level of care that our 'āina and our communities deserve. Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding.

Finally, many of these measures do not reflect a close understanding of the role of our land use districts or the district boundary amendment process that is highly expedited for affordable housing projects, yet still serve to safeguard public interests and needs from unintended consequences. SB1114 and HB826 should be critically

analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations' food security, is further compromised.

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this testimony.

Sincerely,
Susan Stayton Lawai, Kauai



From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 9:54:51 AM

Name
Steven Lee Montgomery, Ph. D.
Email
manninga001@hawaii.rr.com
ZIP / Postal Code
96797
Agenda Item
ITEM #6: SB28
Position
Oppose
Testimony
<p>Subject: Testimony for Agenda Items 6-18</p> <p>Aloha Chair and Members,</p> <p>My name is Steven Lee Montgomery. I had the privilege to serve 5 BUSY years as a member of the Land Use Commission after an appointment by Gov. Ben Cayetano, well before zoom tech allowed hybrid meetings. And having lived since 1988 on former Oahu Sugar Ag land in an affordable home built by the Horita Co. in upper Waipahu, I have an urgent response to the veiled proposal in SB28, because it could permit as few as 3 of your 9 members to approve a re-districting. I cannot recall any housing docket with a component of affordable housing failing to earn 6 votes and approval. In fact, when A&B asked to urbanize Ag land for shops near Maui's airport, Chairman Clarence Ing convinced the applicant to add an affordable housing section!! In Kohala we on the Commission voted to extend by many years the time & amount for 'Aina Le`a, LLC, to finish building 385 affordable housing units agreed upon. This bill implies that LUC has disapproved affordable housing dockets but gives no evidence in its preamble. Please defend the LUC's record of diligent and strong work to support housing.</p> <p>Continue to ask questions for the record to insure land use changes protect Hawaiian cultural practitioners and citizens nearby. The County General Plan process is no substitute for LUC in finding the best balance between varied public interests. I can recall sad cases of neighbors with a provincial, "NIMBY" view having intimidated elected County Council members who blocked vital affordable housing plans!</p> <p>As you consider your positions on 12 bills, do protect food security, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, LUC fact-finding that entails a rigorous, detailed, and objective balance between public interests.</p> <p>We must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments. Please OPPOSE SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals. Also OPPOSE measures SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, since they remove the crucial public interest protections for our landscapes and communities.</p> <p>Mahalo,</p>

Steven Lee Montgomery, Ph. D. manninga001@hawaii.rr.com
94-610 Palai Street, Waipahu, Hawaii 96797-4535 USA (808) 342-6244

From: manninga001@hawaii.rr.com
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony for Agenda Items 6-18
Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 9:56:49 AM



Aloha Chair and Members,

My name is Steven Lee Montgomery. I had the privilege to serve 5 BUSY years as a member of the Land Use Commission after an appointment by Gov. Ben Cayetano, well before zoom tech allowed hybrid meetings. And having lived since 1988 on former Oahu Sugar Ag land in an affordable home built by the Horita Co. in upper Waipahu, I have an urgent response to the veiled proposal in SB28, because it could permit as few as 3 of your 9 members to approve a re-districting. I cannot recall any housing docket with a component of affordable housing failing to earn 6 votes and approval. In fact, when A&B asked to urbanize Ag land for shops near Maui's airport, Chairman Clarence Ing convinced the applicant to add an affordable housing section!! In Kohala we on the Commission voted to extend by many years the time & amount for 'Aina Le`a, LLC, to finish building 385 affordable housing units agreed upon.

This bill implies that LUC has disapproved affordable housing dockets but gives no evidence in its preamble. Please defend the LUC's record of diligent and strong work to support housing.

Continue to ask questions for the record to insure land use changes protect Hawaiian cultural practitioners and citizens nearby. The County General Plan process is no substitute for LUC in finding the best balance between varied public interests. I can recall sad cases of neighbors with a provincial, "NIMBY" view having intimidated elected County Council members who blocked vital affordable housing plans!

As you consider your positions on 12 bills, do protect food security, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, LUC fact-finding that entails a rigorous, detailed, and objective balance between public interests.

We must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments. Please OPPOSE SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.

Also OPPOSE measures SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, since they remove the crucial public interest protections for our landscapes and communities.

Mahalo, Steven Lee Montgomery, Ph. D. manninga001@hawaii.rr.com

94-610 Palai Street, Waipahu, Hawaii 96797-4535 USA (808) 342-6244

From: [Summer-Lee Kau'ionalani Yadao](#)
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Feb. 5, 2025 Testimony - Land Use Commission Meeting
Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 10:40:18 AM



Aloha mai kākou,

I am writing to provide information that should be taken into consideration as you look at plans that will directly impact me and my 'ohana in the Kalaeloa/Kapolei/Ewa/Honouliuli ahupua'a.

Currently attending an AI conference where innovators in developing technology for humanity is being discussed.

Housing, environment, health and education are some of the main topics we are addressing.

Before you allow ill advised plans to be put forth for us.

I'm strongly advising to realize the way we develop things in Hawai'i NEED to be environmentally and especially culturally the main focus to consider.

The inventors and investors of these AI technologies want to keep Hawai'i, Hawai'i and keep our people from moving away, creating real sustainable work force retention.

Do not pass go for any plans being put forth now by developers who have shown their ways of operating in Hawai'i are NOT in the best interest of Hawai'i or Hawaiians and only benefit themselves financially.

Mahalo,
Summer Yadao
808-387-1098
sumlove808@gmail.com



From: [Shay Chan Hodges](#)
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, and SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015
Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 10:43:50 AM

Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,

My name is Shay Chan Hodges and I first want to thank you for your service in helping navigate complex land use decisions that may impact our landscape, our islands, and our communities for decades if not generations.

As you consider your positions on the 12 bills agendized for discussion today, I urge you to consider the importance of the public interests you have been chosen to protect - including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. I also urge you to remember the critical LUC fact-finding and decision-making process that entails a much more rigorous, detailed, and politically objective means of striking a balance between these important public interests.

With decisions impacting dozens if not hundreds of acres of land at a time - decisions that could impact the food and water security of our children and grandchildren, and the environmental and cultural integrity of the islands they inherit - we must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments. **Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.**

Please also do not surrender your kuleana to ensure a close, objective, and granular analysis of land use changes, using a process that ensures the voices of Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with intimate familiarity of the land in question to be heard and explicitly recognized in decisionmaking. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your critical work when it comes to finding the best balance between critical public interests, and ensuring the high level of care that our 'āina and our communities deserve. **Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding.**

Finally, many of these measures do not reflect a close understanding of the role of our land use districts or the district boundary amendment process that is highly expedited for affordable housing projects, yet still serve to safeguard public interests and needs from unintended consequences. **SB1114 and HB826 should be critically analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations' food security, is further compromised.**

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this testimony.

Sincerely,

Shay Chan Hodges

Read/Write Community
Responsible Markets
Maui ESG Project
mauiesgproject.org
808.250.6160



From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 10:55:01 AM

Name
Perle Besserman
Email
psbesser@gmail.com
ZIP / Postal Code
96814
Representing
Sierra Club
Agenda Item
ITEM #5: Land Use Development Coordinator
Position
Oppose
Testimony
<p>Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,</p> <p>My name is Perle Besserman, and I first want to thank you for your service in helping navigate complex land use decisions that may impact our landscape, our islands, and our communities for decades if not generations.</p> <p>As you consider your positions on the 12 bills agendized for discussion today, I urge you to consider the importance of the public interests you have been chosen to protect - including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. I also urge you to remember the critical LUC fact-finding and decision-making process that entails a much more rigorous, detailed, and politically objective means of striking a balance between these important public interests.</p> <p>With decisions impacting dozens if not hundreds of acres of land at a time - decisions that could impact the food and water security of our children and grandchildren, and the environmental and cultural integrity of the islands they inherit - we must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments. Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.</p> <p>Please also do not surrender your kuleana to ensure a close, objective, and granular analysis of land use changes, using a process that ensures the voices of Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with intimate familiarity of the land in question to be heard and explicitly recognized in decisionmaking. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your critical work when it comes to finding the best balance between critical public interests, and ensuring the high level of care that our ‘āina and our communities deserve. Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding.</p> <p>Finally, many of these measures do not reflect a close understanding of the role of our land use districts or the district boundary amendment process that is highly expedited for affordable housing projects, yet still serve to safeguard public interests and needs from unintended consequences. SB1114 and HB826 should be critically analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations‘ food security, is further compromised.</p>

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this testimony.

Sincerely,
Perle Besserman



From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 10:59:52 AM

Name
Amy Muramatsu
Email
amy@muramatsu.com
ZIP / Postal Code
96768
Representing
Self
Agenda Item
ITEM #7: SB36
Position
Oppose
Testimony
<p>REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS # 6-18</p> <p>Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,</p> <p>My name is Amy Muramatsu and I first want to thank you for your service in helping navigate complex land use decisions that may impact our landscape, our islands, and our communities for decades if not generations.</p> <p>As you consider your positions on the 12 bills agendized for discussion today, I urge you to consider the importance of the public interests you have been chosen to protect - including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. I also urge you to remember the critical LUC fact-finding and decision-making process that entails a much more rigorous, detailed, and politically objective means of striking a balance between these important public interests.</p> <p>With decisions impacting dozens if not hundreds of acres of land at a time - decisions that could impact the food and water security of our children and grandchildren, and the environmental and cultural integrity of the islands they inherit - we must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments. Please OPPOSE measures like SB36, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.</p> <p>Please also do not surrender your kuleana to ensure a close, objective, and granular analysis of land use changes, using a process that ensures the voices of Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with intimate familiarity of the land in question to be heard and explicitly recognized in decisionmaking. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your critical work when it comes to finding the best balance between critical public interests, and ensuring the high level of care that our ‘āina and our communities deserve. Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding.</p> <p>Finally, many of these measures do not reflect a close understanding of the role of our land use districts or the district boundary amendment process that is highly expedited for affordable housing projects, yet still serve to safeguard public interests and needs from unintended consequences. SB1114 and HB826 should be critically analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations’ food security, is further</p>

compromised.

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this testimony.

Sincerely,
Amy Muramatsu



From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 10:58:27 AM

Name
Amy
Email
amy@muramatsu.com
ZIP / Postal Code
96768
Representing
Self
Agenda Item
ITEM #6: SB28
Position
Oppose
Testimony
REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS # 6-18 Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission, My name is Amy Muramatsu and I first want to thank you for your service in helping navigate complex land use decisions that may impact our landscape, our islands, and our communities for decades if not generations. As you consider your positions on the 12 bills agendized for discussion today, I urge you to consider the importance of the public interests you have been chosen to protect - including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. I also urge you to remember the critical LUC fact-finding and decision-making process that entails a much more rigorous, detailed, and politically objective means of striking a balance between these important public interests. With decisions impacting dozens if not hundreds of acres of land at a time - decisions that could impact the food and water security of our children and grandchildren, and the environmental and cultural integrity of the islands they inherit - we must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments. Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals. Please also do not surrender your kuleana to ensure a close, objective, and granular analysis of land use changes, using a process that ensures the voices of Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with intimate familiarity of the land in question to be heard and explicitly recognized in decisionmaking. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your critical work when it comes to finding the best balance between critical public interests, and ensuring the high level of care that our ‘āina and our communities deserve. Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding. Finally, many of these measures do not reflect a close understanding of the role of our land use districts or the district boundary amendment process that is highly expedited for affordable housing projects, yet still serve to safeguard public interests and needs from unintended consequences. SB1114 and HB826 should be critically analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations’ food security, is further

compromised.

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this testimony.

Sincerely,
Amy Muramatsu

From: [Bill or Bobbie Best](#)
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony for Agenda Items 6-18
Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 10:59:53 AM



Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,

Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.

Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding.

SB1114 and HB826 should be critically analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations’ food security, is further compromised.

We stand with the Sierra Club and its reasoning on this. It’s a non-profit with the public good as its goal.

Mahalo nui for your allowing this input.

Bill and Bobbie Best
Wailuku



From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 11:00:53 AM

Name
Amy Muramatsu
Email
amy@muramatsu.com
ZIP / Postal Code
96768
Representing
Self
Agenda Item
ITEM #8: SB1079 and HB502
Position
Oppose
Testimony
<p>REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS # 6-18</p> <p>Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,</p> <p>My name is Amy Muramatsu and I first want to thank you for your service in helping navigate complex land use decisions that may impact our landscape, our islands, and our communities for decades if not generations.</p> <p>As you consider your positions on the 12 bills agendized for discussion today, I urge you to consider the importance of the public interests you have been chosen to protect - including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. I also urge you to remember the critical LUC fact-finding and decision-making process that entails a much more rigorous, detailed, and politically objective means of striking a balance between these important public interests.</p> <p>With decisions impacting dozens if not hundreds of acres of land at a time - decisions that could impact the food and water security of our children and grandchildren, and the environmental and cultural integrity of the islands they inherit - we must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments. Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.</p> <p>Please also do not surrender your kuleana to ensure a close, objective, and granular analysis of land use changes, using a process that ensures the voices of Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with intimate familiarity of the land in question to be heard and explicitly recognized in decisionmaking. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your critical work when it comes to finding the best balance between critical public interests, and ensuring the high level of care that our ‘āina and our communities deserve. Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding.</p> <p>Finally, many of these measures do not reflect a close understanding of the role of our land use districts or the district boundary amendment process that is highly expedited for affordable housing projects, yet still serve to safeguard public interests and needs from unintended consequences. SB1114 and HB826 should be critically analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations’ food security, is further</p>

compromised.

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this testimony.

Sincerely,
Amy Muramatsu

From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 11:01:44 AM



Name
Amy Muramatsu
Email
amy@muramatsu.com
ZIP / Postal Code
96768
Representing
Self
Agenda Item
ITEM #9: SB1114
Position
Oppose
Testimony
<p>REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS # 6-18</p> <p>Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,</p> <p>My name is Amy Muramatsu and I first want to thank you for your service in helping navigate complex land use decisions that may impact our landscape, our islands, and our communities for decades if not generations.</p> <p>As you consider your positions on the 12 bills agendized for discussion today, I urge you to consider the importance of the public interests you have been chosen to protect - including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. I also urge you to remember the critical LUC fact-finding and decision-making process that entails a much more rigorous, detailed, and politically objective means of striking a balance between these important public interests.</p> <p>With decisions impacting dozens if not hundreds of acres of land at a time - decisions that could impact the food and water security of our children and grandchildren, and the environmental and cultural integrity of the islands they inherit - we must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments. Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.</p> <p>Please also do not surrender your kuleana to ensure a close, objective, and granular analysis of land use changes, using a process that ensures the voices of Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with intimate familiarity of the land in question to be heard and explicitly recognized in decisionmaking. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your critical work when it comes to finding the best balance between critical public interests, and ensuring the high level of care that our ‘āina and our communities deserve. Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding.</p> <p>Finally, many of these measures do not reflect a close understanding of the role of our land use districts or the district boundary amendment process that is highly expedited for affordable housing projects, yet still serve to safeguard public interests and needs from unintended consequences. SB1114 and HB826 should be critically analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations’ food security, is further</p>

compromised.

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this testimony.

Sincerely,
Amy Muramatsu

From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 11:02:17 AM



Name
Amy Muramatsu
Email
amy@muramatsu.com
ZIP / Postal Code
96768
Representing
Self
Agenda Item
ITEM #10: SB1157
Position
Oppose
Testimony
<p>REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS # 6-18</p> <p>Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,</p> <p>My name is Amy Muramatsu and I first want to thank you for your service in helping navigate complex land use decisions that may impact our landscape, our islands, and our communities for decades if not generations.</p> <p>As you consider your positions on the 12 bills agendized for discussion today, I urge you to consider the importance of the public interests you have been chosen to protect - including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. I also urge you to remember the critical LUC fact-finding and decision-making process that entails a much more rigorous, detailed, and politically objective means of striking a balance between these important public interests.</p> <p>With decisions impacting dozens if not hundreds of acres of land at a time - decisions that could impact the food and water security of our children and grandchildren, and the environmental and cultural integrity of the islands they inherit - we must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments. Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.</p> <p>Please also do not surrender your kuleana to ensure a close, objective, and granular analysis of land use changes, using a process that ensures the voices of Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with intimate familiarity of the land in question to be heard and explicitly recognized in decisionmaking. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your critical work when it comes to finding the best balance between critical public interests, and ensuring the high level of care that our ‘āina and our communities deserve. Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding.</p> <p>Finally, many of these measures do not reflect a close understanding of the role of our land use districts or the district boundary amendment process that is highly expedited for affordable housing projects, yet still serve to safeguard public interests and needs from unintended consequences. SB1114 and HB826 should be critically analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations’ food security, is further</p>

compromised.

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this testimony.

Sincerely,
Amy Muramatsu



From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 11:02:59 AM

Name
Amy Muramatsu
Email
amy@muramatsu.com
ZIP / Postal Code
96768
Representing
Self
Agenda Item
ITEM #11: SB1334 and HB1015
Position
Oppose
Testimony
<p>REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS # 6-18</p> <p>Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,</p> <p>My name is Amy Muramatsu and I first want to thank you for your service in helping navigate complex land use decisions that may impact our landscape, our islands, and our communities for decades if not generations.</p> <p>As you consider your positions on the 12 bills agendized for discussion today, I urge you to consider the importance of the public interests you have been chosen to protect - including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. I also urge you to remember the critical LUC fact-finding and decision-making process that entails a much more rigorous, detailed, and politically objective means of striking a balance between these important public interests.</p> <p>With decisions impacting dozens if not hundreds of acres of land at a time - decisions that could impact the food and water security of our children and grandchildren, and the environmental and cultural integrity of the islands they inherit - we must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments. Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.</p> <p>Please also do not surrender your kuleana to ensure a close, objective, and granular analysis of land use changes, using a process that ensures the voices of Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with intimate familiarity of the land in question to be heard and explicitly recognized in decisionmaking. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your critical work when it comes to finding the best balance between critical public interests, and ensuring the high level of care that our ‘āina and our communities deserve. Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding.</p> <p>Finally, many of these measures do not reflect a close understanding of the role of our land use districts or the district boundary amendment process that is highly expedited for affordable housing projects, yet still serve to safeguard public interests and needs from unintended consequences. SB1114 and HB826 should be critically analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations’ food security, is further</p>

compromised.

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this testimony.

Sincerely,
Amy Muramatsu

From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 11:03:53 AM



Name
Amy Muramatsu
Email
amy@muramatsu.com
ZIP / Postal Code
96768
Representing
Self
Agenda Item
ITEM #13: HB826
Position
Oppose
Testimony
<p>REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS # 6-18</p> <p>Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,</p> <p>My name is Amy Muramatsu and I first want to thank you for your service in helping navigate complex land use decisions that may impact our landscape, our islands, and our communities for decades if not generations.</p> <p>As you consider your positions on the 12 bills agendized for discussion today, I urge you to consider the importance of the public interests you have been chosen to protect - including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. I also urge you to remember the critical LUC fact-finding and decision-making process that entails a much more rigorous, detailed, and politically objective means of striking a balance between these important public interests.</p> <p>With decisions impacting dozens if not hundreds of acres of land at a time - decisions that could impact the food and water security of our children and grandchildren, and the environmental and cultural integrity of the islands they inherit - we must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments. Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.</p> <p>Please also do not surrender your kuleana to ensure a close, objective, and granular analysis of land use changes, using a process that ensures the voices of Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with intimate familiarity of the land in question to be heard and explicitly recognized in decisionmaking. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your critical work when it comes to finding the best balance between critical public interests, and ensuring the high level of care that our ‘āina and our communities deserve. Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding.</p> <p>Finally, many of these measures do not reflect a close understanding of the role of our land use districts or the district boundary amendment process that is highly expedited for affordable housing projects, yet still serve to safeguard public interests and needs from unintended consequences. SB1114 and HB826 should be critically analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations’ food security, is further</p>

compromised.

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this testimony.

Sincerely,
Amy Muramatsu

From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 11:04:52 AM



Name
Amy Muramatsu
Email
amy@muramatsu.com
ZIP / Postal Code
96768
Representing
Self
Agenda Item
ITEM #15: SB1099
Position
Oppose
Testimony
<p>REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS # 6-18</p> <p>Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,</p> <p>My name is Amy Muramatsu and I first want to thank you for your service in helping navigate complex land use decisions that may impact our landscape, our islands, and our communities for decades if not generations.</p> <p>As you consider your positions on the 12 bills agendized for discussion today, I urge you to consider the importance of the public interests you have been chosen to protect - including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. I also urge you to remember the critical LUC fact-finding and decision-making process that entails a much more rigorous, detailed, and politically objective means of striking a balance between these important public interests.</p> <p>With decisions impacting dozens if not hundreds of acres of land at a time - decisions that could impact the food and water security of our children and grandchildren, and the environmental and cultural integrity of the islands they inherit - we must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments. Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.</p> <p>Please also do not surrender your kuleana to ensure a close, objective, and granular analysis of land use changes, using a process that ensures the voices of Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with intimate familiarity of the land in question to be heard and explicitly recognized in decisionmaking. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your critical work when it comes to finding the best balance between critical public interests, and ensuring the high level of care that our ‘āina and our communities deserve. Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding.</p> <p>Finally, many of these measures do not reflect a close understanding of the role of our land use districts or the district boundary amendment process that is highly expedited for affordable housing projects, yet still serve to safeguard public interests and needs from unintended consequences. SB1114 and HB826 should be critically analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations’ food security, is further</p>

compromised.

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this testimony.

Sincerely,
Amy Muramatsu



From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 11:05:47 AM

Name
Amy Muramatsu
Email
amy@muramatsu.com
ZIP / Postal Code
96768
Representing
Self
Agenda Item
ITEM #16: SB26 and HB 1451
Position
Oppose
Testimony
<p>REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS # 6-18</p> <p>Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,</p> <p>My name is Amy Muramatsu and I first want to thank you for your service in helping navigate complex land use decisions that may impact our landscape, our islands, and our communities for decades if not generations.</p> <p>As you consider your positions on the 12 bills agendized for discussion today, I urge you to consider the importance of the public interests you have been chosen to protect - including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. I also urge you to remember the critical LUC fact-finding and decision-making process that entails a much more rigorous, detailed, and politically objective means of striking a balance between these important public interests.</p> <p>With decisions impacting dozens if not hundreds of acres of land at a time - decisions that could impact the food and water security of our children and grandchildren, and the environmental and cultural integrity of the islands they inherit - we must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments. Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.</p> <p>Please also do not surrender your kuleana to ensure a close, objective, and granular analysis of land use changes, using a process that ensures the voices of Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with intimate familiarity of the land in question to be heard and explicitly recognized in decisionmaking. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your critical work when it comes to finding the best balance between critical public interests, and ensuring the high level of care that our ‘āina and our communities deserve. Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding.</p> <p>Finally, many of these measures do not reflect a close understanding of the role of our land use districts or the district boundary amendment process that is highly expedited for affordable housing projects, yet still serve to safeguard public interests and needs from unintended consequences. SB1114 and HB826 should be critically analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations’ food security, is further</p>

compromised.

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this testimony.

Sincerely,
Amy Muramatsu

From: webmaster@hawaii.gov
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: New Public Testimony
Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 11:06:34 AM



Name
Amy Muramatsu
Email
amy@muramatsu.com
ZIP / Postal Code
96768
Representing
Self
Agenda Item
ITEM #18: SB197
Position
Oppose
Testimony
<p>REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS # 6-18</p> <p>Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,</p> <p>My name is Amy Muramatsu and I first want to thank you for your service in helping navigate complex land use decisions that may impact our landscape, our islands, and our communities for decades if not generations.</p> <p>As you consider your positions on the 12 bills agendized for discussion today, I urge you to consider the importance of the public interests you have been chosen to protect - including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. I also urge you to remember the critical LUC fact-finding and decision-making process that entails a much more rigorous, detailed, and politically objective means of striking a balance between these important public interests.</p> <p>With decisions impacting dozens if not hundreds of acres of land at a time - decisions that could impact the food and water security of our children and grandchildren, and the environmental and cultural integrity of the islands they inherit - we must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments. Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.</p> <p>Please also do not surrender your kuleana to ensure a close, objective, and granular analysis of land use changes, using a process that ensures the voices of Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with intimate familiarity of the land in question to be heard and explicitly recognized in decisionmaking. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your critical work when it comes to finding the best balance between critical public interests, and ensuring the high level of care that our ‘āina and our communities deserve. Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding.</p> <p>Finally, many of these measures do not reflect a close understanding of the role of our land use districts or the district boundary amendment process that is highly expedited for affordable housing projects, yet still serve to safeguard public interests and needs from unintended consequences. SB1114 and HB826 should be critically analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations’ food security, is further</p>

compromised.

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this testimony.

Sincerely,
Amy Muramatsu

From: [Glenn Choy](#)
To: [DBEDT LUC](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Testimony for agenda items 6-18
Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 12:23:02 PM



I strongly oppose SB28, SB 1079, SB 1157, SB 1134, SB 1015, and HB 502
Sent from my iPhone



SIERRA CLUB

HAWAII ISLAND GROUP



February 5, 2025

State of Hawai'i
Land Use Commission
235 S Beretania Street, Room 405
Honolulu, HI 96813

Aloha Mr. Chair and members of the Commission,

The Hawai'i Island Group of the Sierra Club of Hawai'i would like to provide testimony on the following agenda items:

Agenda item #7, SB36. This proposed legislation is a red herring. Affordable housing developments can already receive expedited approval under HRS201H. Not all land in the urban expansion area is appropriate for urban development. A perfect example is the recent county rezoning applicant seeking to extend the time for a development originally granted LUC and county approvals in the 1980s. It may the property which had had three changes of ownership. Because of the profound changes that have occurred over the past 40 years, the original conditions for redistricting by the LUC were no longer appropriate. In addition, the development had been allowed to proceed with the first phase without fulfilling the affordable housing requirement. As a result, the county council denied the rezoning extension. HIG urges the LUC to not relinquish its authority to review applications proposing to reclassify lands designated as urban growth in county general plans and/or community development plans.

Agenda item #8, SB1079. The state legislature passed legislation that allowed for a minimum of two accessory dwelling units on properties within the state land use Urban district. Shortly thereafter, the county of Hawai'i approved a revision of its code that allows up to 3 accessory dwelling units on land on not just state Urban district land, but properties in the state Rural district. If the county were to be allowed to submit petitions for declaratory rulings to redesignate agricultural subdivisions into the Rural district, then property owners would be able to build up to 3 additional dwellings. Given that public infrastructure on the island of Hawai'i is already beyond capacity and the current county General Plan comprehensive process has not in any way taken into consideration the impact of the increased densities that would result from accessory dwellings units, SB1079 could have disastrous, unintended consequences.

Agenda items #10 and #11. With regard to SB1157, SB1334, and HB1015 the county of Hawai'i is currently conducting a comprehensive review of its General Plan. Since the county of Hawai'i Planning Director issued the current draft General Plan, referred to as General Plan 2045, there have been common themes in public testimony. One theme is related to the fact that

the Planning Dept. engaged a private contractor to place the General Plan 2045 on an online platform that required a software be learned to provide comments on the written text and to learn another software in order to review and comment on the land use maps. This immediately disenfranchised a large portion of the counties legal residents. The county Windward Planning Commission is conducting a special meeting to review the draft General Plan 2045 at this very moment. If the Commissioners were to watch public testimony being submitted at this meeting as well as the prior meetings of the Leeward and Windward Planning Commissions on YouTube, you would see that the draft General Plan is not only opposed, but that the public has only been recently learning out the comprehensive review process because of increasing attention by social media influencers. Therefore, HIG urges the LUC to not relinquish its authority to county General Plans and/or community development plans and to give SB1157, SB1334, and HB826 unfavorable recommendations.

Agenda item #13, HB826. This proposed legislation does not contain sufficient language to provide any reasonable assurance that the long-term rental and/or workforce fee simple ownership residential housing developments described in HB816 will be restricted as long-term rentals and/or in workforce fee ownership in perpetuity. HIG urges the LUC to give an unfavorable recommendation to HB826.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.



[EXTERNAL] Written testimony for the Land Use committee

From Pam Scott <phails808@gmail.com>

Date Thu 2/6/2025 2:40 PM

To DBEDT LUC <dbedt.luc.web@hawaii.gov>

Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,

My name is Pamela Scott and I first want to thank you for your service in helping navigate complex land use decisions that may impact our landscape, our islands, and our communities for decades if not generations.

As you consider your positions on the 12 bills agendized for discussion today, I urge you to consider the importance of the public interests you have been chosen to protect - including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. I also urge you to remember the critical LUC fact-finding and decision-making process that entails a much more rigorous, detailed, and politically objective means of striking a balance between these important public interests.

With decisions impacting dozens if not hundreds of acres of land at a time - decisions that could impact the food and water security of our children and grandchildren, and the environmental and cultural integrity of the islands they inherit - we must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments. **Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.**

Please also do not surrender your kuleana to ensure a close, objective, and granular analysis of land use changes, using a process that ensures the voices of Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with intimate familiarity of the land in question to be heard and explicitly recognized in decisionmaking. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your critical work when it comes to finding the best balance between critical public interests, and ensuring the high level of care that our ‘āina and our communities deserve. **Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding.**

Finally, many of these measures do not reflect a close understanding of the role

of our land use districts or the district boundary amendment process that is highly expedited for affordable housing projects, yet still serve to safeguard public interests and needs from unintended consequences. **SB1114 and HB826 should be critically analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations' food security, is further compromised.**

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this testimony.

Sincerely,
Pamela Scott

[EXTERNAL] Testimony for Agenda Items 6-18

From Elizabeth <ees01@earthlink.net>
Date Sat 2/15/2025 10:26 AM
To DBEDT LUC <dbedt.luc.web@hawaii.gov>



Aloha Chair Giovanni, Vice Chairs Yamane and Kamakea-‘Ōhelo, and members of the Commission,

My name is Elizabeth Seltzer and I first want to thank you for your service in helping navigate complex land use decisions that may impact our landscape, our islands, and our communities for decades if not generations.

As you consider your positions on the 12 bills agendized for discussion today, I urge you to consider the importance of the public interests you have been chosen to protect - including food security, Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, public trust resources, climate resilience, affordable housing, and local jobs. I also urge you to remember the critical LUC fact-finding and decision-making process that entails a much more rigorous, detailed, and politically objective means of striking a balance between these important public interests.

With decisions impacting dozens if not hundreds of acres of land at a time - decisions that could impact the food and water security of our children and grandchildren, and the environmental and cultural integrity of the islands they inherit - we must maintain the high level of care that is embodied in the 6-member approval process for land use district boundary amendments. **Please OPPOSE measures like SB28, which would allow immense land use changes with broad public impacts to be approved by only 3 individuals.**

Please also do not surrender your kuleana to ensure a close, objective, and granular analysis of land use changes, using a process that ensures the voices of Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners and those with intimate familiarity of the land in question to be heard and explicitly recognized in decisionmaking. The County General Plan process is no substitute for your critical work when it comes to finding the best balance between critical public interests, and ensuring the high level of care that our ‘āina and our communities deserve. **Please OPPOSE measures like SB1079 and HB502, SB1157, and SB1334 and**

HB1015, to the extent that they remove the critical public interest protections that you have committed to upholding.

Finally, many of these measures do not reflect a close understanding of the role of our land use districts or the district boundary amendment process that is highly expedited for affordable housing projects, yet still serve to safeguard public interests and needs from unintended consequences. **SB1114 and HB826 should be critically analyzed before our agricultural district and by extension, our future generations' food security, is further compromised.**

Mahalo nui for your consideration of this testimony.

Elizabeth Seltzer

Maui
