

BILL038(24)

Testimony

MISC. COMM. 433

HOUSING, SUSTAINABILITY AND HEALTH (HSH)

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Meeting

Meeting Date: Sep 25, 2024 @ 02:30 PM

Support: 1

Oppose: 0

I wish to comment: 1

Name: Kimeona Kane	Email: kimeonakane@gmail.com	Zip: 96795
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Sep 24, 2024 @ 01:14 AM
Testimony: Aloha mai kākou, Kimeona Kane of Waimānalo. I want to thank the Committee and those who have contributed over the years, to making this document possible and available. Additionally, I want to offer my mahalo for the opportunity to participate in this manner and be able to comment on this item. I look forward to reviewing the document further with intent to highlight how we may be able to utilize such a plan to advocate stronger for our communities. While this, and many other plans, offer a commitment to ahupua'a lifeways, I have to question how much of this is true to the core. The exponential growth within the urban core has resulted in a manipulation of natural systems, so much so, that communities, like mine, are left to now take from others just to make things work well. As a child, raised on the farmlands in the backroads of Waimānalo, I recall vividly a time where water moved through our natural systems much more regularly. So much so, that we could enjoy its cooling and healing nature. Today, many of our natural systems have run dry. Who is to be questioned? I do not yet know. As we continue to try and seek answers from the Commission on Water Resource Management, and as we seek to continue our discussions with Board of Water Supply, I find myself losing hope in the possibility that water, in any way, may return to our systems again. Maybe, perhaps, we have just gotten better at moving water through pipes opposed to channels and auwai, and maybe perhaps I just do not see the water moving like it used to above ground, and it seems, however, that the wai seldom flows into the kai anymore. Muliwai'ōlena, a cultural spring, runs low, if anything today. The namesake of our wind, named for the scent of Limu Līpu'upu'u, today struggles to exist in relationship, in part, due to decrease of wai reaching kai. While focus is paid to communities, to keep up with the over population and continued mismanagement of resources, I ask, humbly, that we reflect on what it means to live in an ahupua'a system, and acknowledge, that wai, is the catalyst to our ability to do so. Please help us save our relationships to 'āina and restore our access to wai. Every watershed deserves the right to exist and thrive, not just the priority ones. Mahalo nui, Kimeona Kane		
Name: Melissa May	Email: mmay@ssfm.com	Zip: 96817
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Sep 25, 2024 @ 02:16 PM
Testimony: I am the consultant for the East Honolulu Watershed Management Plan and will be joining the meeting remotely. I will be available as needed for answering questions.		