I STRONGLY SUPPORT HB1744/SB2133, which would help revive and perpetuate Native Hawaiian cultural connections, knowledge, and values, by requiring the counties to develop a framework under which certain subdivision and condominium property regime proposals must set aside land for Hawaiian Cultural Reserve purposes. Unsustainable land use and real estate development continue to impact natural and cultural resources, restrict access to such resources, and inhibit or sever generational connections to place that are essential in perpetuating Native Hawaiian culture.

The dedication of lands for Hawaiian Cultural Reserves would help to lessen negative impacts by actively restoring cultural connections to developed areas, and perpetuating traditional ecological knowledge that may be key to the future sustainability of our islands. Therefore, I respectfully urge the Committee to PASS HB1744/SB2133.