



**Carty S
Chang/DLNR/StateHiUS**

11/15/2012 06:30 PM

To Alyson K Yim/DLNR/StateHiUS@StateHiUS,

cc

bcc

Subject Fw: ENG - Ballot item - Info for press release

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----- Forwarded by Carty S Chang/DLNR/StateHiUS on 11/15/2012 06:29 PM -----

From: Laura A Stevens/DLNR/StateHiUS
To: Carty S Chang/DLNR/StateHiUS@StateHiUS, Edwin Y Matsuda/DLNR/StateHiUS@StateHiUS,
Cc: Deborah L Ward/DLNR/StateHiUS@StateHiUS
Date: 10/25/2012 03:13 PM
Subject: Re: ENG - Ballot item - Info for press release

Hi Carty and Ed,

Here is the quick draft of a factsheet. Please look this over, upon review and concurrence that information is accurate we can do a request to have this posted on the DLNR homepage per William and Carty's discussion earlier this week.



ConAmend_DamReseviorBonds_factsheet.doc
thanks,

Laura

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www.facebook.com/HawaiiDLNR

www.twitter.com/dlnr

www.youtube.com/thehawaiidl原因

www.vimeo.com/channels/hawaiidl原因

Laura A Stevens

[Aloha Debbie, Here is what I just posted on the f...](#)

10/25/2012 02:49:57 PM

From: Laura A Stevens/DLNR/StateHiUS
To: Deborah L Ward/DLNR/StateHiUS@StateHiUS,
Cc: Carty S Chang/DLNR/StateHiUS@StateHiUS, Edwin Y Matsuda/DLNR/StateHiUS@StateHiUS

Date: 10/25/2012 02:49 PM
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Aloha Debbie,

Here is what I just posted on the facebook page. I thought it might be helpful for the draft press release.

FYI I'm working on a 1 page factsheet so we can get that on the DLNR homepage and as an image on the DLNR facebook page.... I have a draft facebook post for tomorrow already....its further below and just sharing a news article (sorry Carty I didn't get to share it earlier as I thought I could will do this evening.) that's all for now.

Thanks for arranging the morning shows.

Laura

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<http://www.facebook.com/HawaiiDLNR>

On the ballot this November, there will be a chance to amend the Constitution of the State of Hawaii to allow the State to issue special purpose revenue bonds to assist dam and reservoir owners with investigating and improving their facilities.

The question is "Shall the State be authorized to issue special purpose revenue bonds and use the proceeds from the bond to assist dam and reservoir owners to make their facilities compliant with current safety standards?"

The proposal would allow dam and reservoir owners the ability to apply and obtain special purpose revenue bonds to make their facilities compliant with current safety standards. Many of these facilities have positive impacts on the general public, as these facilities provide a resource for the agricultural community as well as other benefits such as flood control, water quality, recreation, and ground water recharge benefits, which is critical in ensuring adequate water supply for future generations.

The State will not be pledging any of its assets or revenues to support a bond sale for this purpose. The private property owners who choose to apply for these bonds will be responsible for the debt payments. The presumption is that as we aid these owners, businesses and non-profits, the public will benefit from their services. In order to obtain a special purpose revenue bond, a dam and reservoir owner must meet compliance requirements, such as being able to generate sufficient revenues in order to support the issuance of these bonds.

Check out a DLNR Engineering Division News letter Wai Halana October 2012 edition for more information. <http://hawaii.gov/dlnr/eng> PDF of the newsletter directly at [http://www.hidlnc.org/eng/nfip/waiHalana/pdf/2012\\_oct.pdf](http://www.hidlnc.org/eng/nfip/waiHalana/pdf/2012_oct.pdf)

Also Edwin had shared this word document from the Wai Halana Newsletter that helped me craft the above.

[attachment "250121010 - On the Ballot-waihalana.docx" deleted by Laura A Stevens/DLNR/StateHiUS]

**Proposed next post (Thursday evening):**

Recent article in the Star Advertiser about the ballot questions in the November elections. One is "Shall the State be authorized to issue special purpose revenue bonds and use the proceeds from the bond to assist dam and reservoir owners to make their facilities compliant with current

safety standards?"

[http://www.staradvertiser.com/newspremium/20121021\\_\\_Voters\\_will\\_decide\\_on\\_2\\_proposed\\_state\\_constitutional\\_tweaks.html](http://www.staradvertiser.com/newspremium/20121021__Voters_will_decide_on_2_proposed_state_constitutional_tweaks.html)

visit the link for the full article, here is the segment discussing the above question:

Voters will decide on 2 proposed state constitutional tweaks

By Gary T. Kubota

POSTED: 01:30 a.m. HST, Oct 21, 2012

Two proposed state constitutional amendments are up for a vote on the general election ballot Nov. 6 — one temporarily exempting judges from age 70 retirement, and the other seeking to make it easier to repair high-risk agricultural reservoirs and dams.

Dam and reservoir owners would be allowed to obtain some support from the state to finance repairs through special purpose revenue bonds, under one of the proposals.

Supporters of the amendment say the special purpose revenue bonds would help the owners get financing for the projects. The owners would be responsible for paying the debt.

Other entities that already are designated to use special purpose revenue bonds include utilities, industrial enterprises, health care facilities and certain agricultural enterprises.

Lawmakers of both chambers would be required to review each special purpose revenue bond authorization, with approval requiring a two-thirds' vote.

The proposed amendment follows a 2010 report to the state Legislature calling for improvements and looking at 113 high-risk agricultural reservoirs, in light of the Ka Loko Dam catastrophe on Kauai that killed seven people on March 14, 2006.

More than 80 percent of the dams were built before 1940 to support sugar cane plantations, according to the state Department of Land and Natural Resources.

"Dams are a critical part of our state infrastructure, providing benefits upon which our communities and industries depend," department Director William Aila said.

Farmers and ranchers fear that without more financial incentives, owners may choose to shut down dams and reservoirs — which has already happened in certain areas.

"We believe that with the assistance of these special purpose revenue bonds, dams and reservoirs can continue to serve as a valuable water resource for Hawaii's agricultural industry and its communities," said Paul Oshiro, a spokesman for Alexander & Baldwin Inc.

The report said that if the 113 reservoirs were dismantled, some \$242 million worth of crops couldn't be planted because of the lack of water.

**Proposed weekend post:**

Did you know that when voting on a constitutional amendment, a blank vote is considered a “no” vote? Only a “yes” vote will count toward the passage of the amendment and the amendment needs more than 50% of all the total ballots cast to be “yes” in order to pass.

***On the ballot*** this November, there will be a chance to amend the Constitution of the State of Hawaii (Constitution) to allow the State to issue special purpose revenue bonds to assist dam and reservoir owners with investigating and improving their facilities.

The question is “Shall the State be authorized to issue special purpose revenue bonds and use the proceeds from the bond to assist dam and reservoir owners to make their facilities compliant with current safety standards?”

Laura

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