



William J Aila
Jr/DLNR/StateHiUS
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To
cc
bcc
Subject DLNR Supports Constitutional Amendment No. 1 - Please
read for more information on this amendment

Aloha DLNR Ohana,

In this November 2012, there will be a chance to amend the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i (Constitution) to allow the State to issue special purpose revenue bonds to assist dam and reservoir owners with investigating and improving their facilities. The Department supports this amendment and has posted a fact sheet on the website at www.hawaii.gov/dlnr with information that you can share with your friends and family. (Flyer directly at <http://hawaii.gov/dlnr/ConAmendment-No1-Fact-Sheet.pdf>)

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.

This is an important decision for the state and we know a fundamental question for many is, "who will pay back the bonds?"

The Department supports this constitutional amendment No. 1 because it provided vast public benefit and the **private dam and reservoir owners that apply for the program will pay the debt service of the special purpose revenue bonds. The State will not be pledging any of its assets or revenues to support a bond sale for this purpose.** As dam and reservoir facilities are improved, the public will benefit from their services.

This constitutional amendment benefits our communities as improvements to dam and reservoir facilities provide:

- public safety,
- flood control,
- recreation,
- agricultural,
- water quality, and
- ground water recharge.

The question on this year's ballot will be:

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT QUESTION NO. 1

"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?"

For more information on this proposal, visit the following links:

DLNR Wai Halana [newsletter http://www.hidlnr.org/eng/nfip/waiHalana/pdf/2012_oct.pdf](http://www.hidlnr.org/eng/nfip/waiHalana/pdf/2012_oct.pdf)

Notice of Proposed Constitutional Amendments to the Constitution of the State of Hawaii:
<http://hawaii.gov/elections/documents/2012/ConAm%20Poster%202012%20Final%20-%20all%20languages.pdf>

Reference "Amending the Hawaii Constitution": <http://hawaii.gov/lrb/lrbnotes02/0205notes.pdf>

Thank you for your time to share this information.

Sincerely,

William J. Aila, Jr.