

PRESS STATEMENT

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Representative Lynn Decoite's Statement On Governor Ige's Announcement For The State To Provide The Highest Level of Funding Ever For Department of Hawaiian Home Lands

"I think this is a huge step in the right direction for the beneficiaries moving forward. My hope is that by adding funding for positions for DHHL this will help address the Hawaiian Homes Wait List, affordable housing needs and homeless issues. These are a few of the many reasons I felt it was my responsibility to introduce HB 1932 this session.

It is great that the Governor and both the House and Senate have agreed to increase funding to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands for 2016 and 2017, as well as, acknowledge that we must fulfill our constitutional obligation to sufficiently fund the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and its beneficiaries.

I want to thank my colleagues for their support of HB 1932. I look forward to working with them and Governor Ige to get this important measure passed. "

Representative DeCoite introduced HB 1932- RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS in response to the recent ruling and appeal of the Nelson case.

The current version of the bill <u>HB1932 HD2 SD1</u> is moving through the Senate. It passed second reading on March 23, 2016 and now has a joint referral to the WAM/JDL committees.

While the introduction of HB 1932 was in response to the Nelson Case, the Governors announcement today and the progress of HB 1932 does not affect the existing case and appeal that is going forward.



Representative Lynn DeCoite listening to Governor Ige make is announcement about DHHL funding.

Link to Governor Ige's Full Press Release: <u>http://governor.hawaii.gov/newsroom/governors-office-news-releasegovernor-proposes-highest-level-of-funding-ever-for-department-of-hawaiian-home-lands/</u>

Representative Lynn DeCoite serves House District 13 which includes the areas of Haiku, Hana, Kaupo, Kipahulu, Nahiku, Paia, Kahoolawe, Molokini, Lanai and Moloka'i.