H.R. NO. 77

## HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING RELIEF FROM REAL PROPERTY TAXES ON KULEANA LANDS.

1 WHEREAS, in 1850, the Kingdom of Hawaii confirmed several 2 resolutions of the Monarch and Privy Council that granted to the maka'āinana allodial titles for their own lands and house lots, 3 often referred to as "kuleana lands"; and 4 5 WHEREAS, commercial development and other market forces 6 7 have led to sharp increases in real property values and the concomitant increase in real property taxes, including kuleana 8 9 lands, throughout the State; and 10 WHEREAS, many Hawaiian families living on hereditary 11 kuleana lands face the prospect of losing their land, and 12 potential homelessness, due to their inability to afford these 13 increased real property tax assessments; and 14 15 WHEREAS, the risk of kuleana land owners losing their lands 16 is a dire situation of statewide concern due to the social, 17 economic, and cultural disruption that it poses; now, therefore, 18 19 20 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular 21 22 Session of 2007, that each county of the State is requested to enact an ordinance or other law that exempts kuleana land from 23 all real property taxation; and 24 25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the counties are requested to 26 provide that the tax exemption is applicable only to kuleana 27 land that is owned in whole or in part by a lineal descendant of 28 the Hawaiian person(s) who received the original title to the 29 30 land pursuant to L. 1850, p. 202, entitled "An Act Confirming Certain Resolutions of the King and Privy Council, Passed on the 31 21st Day of December, A.D. 1849, Granting to the Common People 32 Allodial Titles for Their Own Lands and House Lots, and Certain 33 Other Privileges", as originally enacted and amended; and 34 35



BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, the Mayor of each county, the Chair of the Council of each county, and the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees, Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

Cabindy. OFFERED BY: BY REQUEST

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