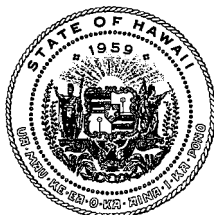
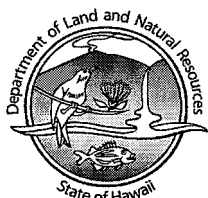


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GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

**TESTIMONY OF THE CHAIRPERSON
OF THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

**On Senate Concurrent Resolution 26– Requesting The State And Counties To
Provide For The Sharing Of The Same Location For Education, Recreational,
Health, And Human Services Programs In Properties That Are Abandoned, Excess,
And Underutilized Properties Under Their Respective Jurisdiction**

**BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON
HUMAN SERVICES,
TOURISM AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS,
and
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY SERVICES**

February 28, 2008

Senate Concurrent Resolution 26 requests the State and Counties to provide for the sharing of the same location for education, recreational, health, and human services programs properties that are abandoned, excess, and underutilized properties under their respective jurisdiction. These type of properties hold the potential for government and community services including housing, early learning centers, and senior services, etc. The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) has no objections with providing a listing of vacant state properties under its jurisdiction.

Over the years, the Department has cooperated with government agencies, non-profits, charter schools, etc. to locate developable sites from its inventory. The Department would note that much of the vacant properties remaining with the Department have been eliminated from consideration because they were deemed undesirable.

Date: 02/28/2008

Committee: Senate Human Services and Public Housing; Senate Tourism and Government Operations; Senate Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Patricia Hamamoto, Superintendent of Education

Title of Resolution: SCR 026 REQUESTING THE STATE AND COUNTIES TO PROVIDE FOR THE SHARING OF THE SAME LOCATION FOR EDUCATIONAL, RECREATIONAL, HEALTH, AND HUMAN SERVICES PROGRAMS IN PROPERTIES THAT ARE ABANDONED, EXCESS, AND UNDERUTILIZED PROPERTIES UNDER THEIR RESPECTIVE JURISDICTION.

Purpose of Resolution: Requests the state and counties to provide for the sharing of the same location for educational, recreational, health, and human services programs in properties that are abandoned, excess, and underutilized properties under their respective jurisdiction.

Department's Position: The Department of Education (DOE) does not support this resolution. The consolidation of public schools is a formal process that involves much analysis and public participation. The potential uses that could share the site with a school is a foremost issue that would be discussed during this process. We feel that because each community has unique needs, and because the subject of school consolidation is very disruptive for the affected community, the discussion should best be done on a case by case basis when the need arises. At that point, discussion will focus specifically on the types of shared use that may be appropriate for that facility.

It would be premature to identify potential schools for consolidation as the resolution requests without going through the aforementioned consolidation process.

Further, it is noted that in the event of a school closure, the property would revert back to either the Department of Land and Natural Resources or the respective county. The DOE would not have a role in the future disposition of the property.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.