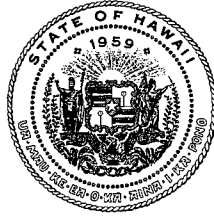
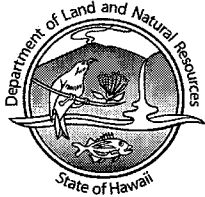


TESTIMONY
SCR 119

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Laura H. Thielen
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

RUSSELL Y. TSUJI
FIRST DEPUTY

KEN C. KAWAHARA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

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

**On Senate Concurrent Resolution 119 – REQUESTING THE BOARD OF LAND AND
NATURAL RESOURCES TO LEASE APPROXIMATELY 13.2 ACRES OF STATE-
OWNED PUBLIC LAND NEAR KE'EHU LAGOON**

**BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON
WATER AND LAND
and
HUMAN SERVICES AND PUBLIC HOUSING**

March 28, 2008

Senate Concurrent Resolution 119 requests the Board of Land and Natural Resources to lease approximately 13.2 acres of State-owned public land near Ke'ehi Lagoon. The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports the intent of this resolution to lease the state property to Pacific Gateway Center for a proposed Ke'ehi Community Resource Center but believes the request is premature due to numerous issues that require resolve prior to proceeding with a disposition of the subject property.

The Administration has met and advised Dr. Tin Myaing Thien preliminary discussions with various state and city agencies should be conducted before proceeding with this project. The state zoning is urban/conservation and the City and County of Honolulu zoning is Preservation – P-1 and P-2, and may need rezoning for development of the subject area. At a minimum, several approvals will be needed: 1) Shoreline Management Area permit, 2) Environmental assessment or environmental impact statement in compliance with Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and 3) Conservation District Use permit. The Department of Transportation, Highways Division, should be consulted for access and egress from the property onto Nimitz Highway. A traffic impact and analysis report will also be required. Lastly, there is a navigation easement in favor of the Department of Transportation, Airports Division, that restricts certain construction and activities on the subject lands.

March 21, 2008

Testimony in support of SCR119

Senate Committee on Water and Land
and

Senate Committee on Human Services and Public Housing
Room 414 at 1445 on Friday, 28 March 2008

Chairs Hee and Chun Oakland and Respected Members of the Committees;

My name is Reg White. I am vice president, project development, for Paradise Cruise, Ltd. Paradise Cruise employs about 460 local residents in full time long term jobs working in the transportation and marine excursion areas of our visitor industry. Over the years our growth from 26 employees in 1982 to the present 467 employees has required the hiring and training of several thousands of our local citizens. We are constantly looking for new sources from which to recruit people looking for a way to earn a living. Giving groups such as these under consideration here today a chance to help our local citizens get a fresh start in their lives produces a new and welcome field for businesses like ours to recruit from. It allows us to stay local, which is a must if our visitor industry is to remain an example of island life and aloha. Please do all you can to facilitate the growth of these much needed services in our community. I do want to be sure that this facility is not on the waterfront so that we may keep it clear for maritime activities. So long as this location uses the vacant or unused land away from the immediate shoreline in Keehi Lagoon I support this effort 100%. What these agencies do, moving people from welfare to self sufficiency and from despair to having pride in themselves is a very important service to our society today.

Respectfully,

Reg White
1540 S. King St.
Honolulu, HI 96826-1919
(808) 222-9794
RawcoHI@cs.com

TESTIMONY
SCR 119
(END)