



HAWAII COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY



Linda Lingle
Governor

Jonathan W. Y. Lai
Chairperson

Anthony J. H. Ching
Executive Director

677 Ala Moana Boulevard
Suite 1001
Honolulu, Hawaii
96813

Telephone
(808) 587-2870

Facsimile
(808) 587-8150

E-Mail
contact@hcdaweb.org

Web site
www.hcdaweb.org

STATEMENT OF

ANTHONY J. H. CHING, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
HAWAII COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

BEFORE THE

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, & OCEAN RESOURCES

AND

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION,
BUSINESS, & MILITARY AFFAIRS

Thursday, April 2, 2009

9:30 A.M.

State Capitol, Conference Room 312

**H. C. R. 145/H. R. 115 - ENCOURAGING THE BASE REALIGNMENT
AND CLOSURE COMMISSION AND THE
HAWAII COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY TO CONTINUE THEIR
DISCUSSIONS AND MAKE GOOD FAITH
EFFORTS TO CONSUMMATE CONVEYANCE
OF PARCELS OF LAND IN KALAELOA
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT.**

Purpose: Encourages Hawaii's congressional delegation to sponsor and support Federal legislation that conveys six parcels within the Kalaeloa Community Development District that are subject to conveyance by the Base Realignment and Closure Commission ("BRAC") to the Hawaii Community Development Authority ("HCDA").

Position: The HCDA supports these resolutions.

The Kalaeloa Community Development District was placed under the HCDA's jurisdiction in 2002. The mission of the HCDA, in both the Kalaeloa and Kakaako Community Development Districts, is not to simply administer zoning rules which might produce the delivery of reserved housing units from willing developers, but also includes: a responsibility to plan and implement capital

improvement projects to upgrade infrastructure and develop public facilities, coordinating the development of mixed-use projects, and most importantly identifying the preferred future that stakeholders and residents of our development Districts desire. In sum, with the support of the Legislature and stakeholders, the HCDA strives to create efficient and sustainable communities that enhance the quality of life for its residents in both Districts.

Currently, the HCDA owns no significant parcels of land in Kalaeloa. During the last conveyance of land by the BRAC, the HCDA did not receive any lands. The six parcels of land identified in the Resolutions were originally proposed to be conveyed to other government agencies, but have since been rejected.

Appropriate stewardship of these lands is necessary. These parcels contain archaeological and/or cultural resources that require protection. Without a steward, inactivity in the District, vandalism, and inattention could result in a loss of these valuable resources. If the parcels are conveyed, as an interim measure we have budgeted for the installation of perimeter fencing around the parcels to deter unauthorized entry and degradation of the resources. In addition to the archaeological and cultural value of these parcels, some of the parcels have value as potential sites for public facilities, such as a photovoltaic farm.

Staffs from the BRAC Program Management Office, West Team and the HCDA have had numerous discussions and the BRAC supports the conveyance of these parcels by Federal special legislation. It is also important to note that in conversations with the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands staff and the United States Navy, both indicated support for the conveyance and stewardship of lands by the HCDA.

The HCDA appreciates Representative Har's efforts in introducing these Resolutions and, through the efforts of Congressman Abercrombie office, language authorizing the conveyance has been inserted into the 2009 Defense Authorization measure. With the support and efforts of the State Legislature and the rest of our Congressional delegation, this conveyance will hopefully be authorized.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.