

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII



KAULANA H. R. PARK
CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION
ANITA S. WONG
DEPUTY TO THE CHAIRMAN
ROBERT J. HALL
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

P.O. BOX 1879
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

TESTIMONY OF KAULANA H. R. PARK, CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION
BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
ON **HB 2116 RELATING TO NATIVE HAWAIIANS**

January 27, 2010

Chair Carroll, Vice-Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaiian Homes Commission and Department of Hawaiian Home Lands support the intent of this legislation that would amend the definition of "native Hawaiian" in the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act.

The change to this definition allows for Native Hawaiians of a one-fourth blood quantum to be eligible for our programs and would likely result in a four-fold increase of our applicant, or "wait list," population.

We believe the significance of HB 2116 should be fully discussed with our beneficiaries and that the social and economic impacts of the of this bill must be further explored so we can better understand the real implications and effects of its implementation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this measure.



**TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE, 2010**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

H.B. NO. 2116, RELATING TO NATIVE HAWAIIANS.

BEFORE THE:

House Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

DATE: Wednesday, January 27, 2010 **TIME:** 9:30 a.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 329

TESTIFIER(S): Mark J. Bennett, Attorney General, or
Lisa Oshiro, Deputy Attorney General

Chair Carroll and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General takes no position as to whether the one-half blood quantum used in the definitions of "native Hawaiian" included in the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, and section 10-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, should be reduced to one-quarter. We testify to point out that this bill should be revised in at least two respects before further consideration is given to its passage.

First, to maintain consistency with section 5(f) of the Admission Act and article XII, sections 4, 5, and 6 of the State Constitution (which chapter 10, Hawaii Revised Statutes, was enacted to effectuate), rather than revise the definition of "native Hawaiian" in section 10-2 by reducing the definition's current blood quantum from one-half to one-quarter, section 2 of this bill should simply do what Congress did in enacting section 5(f) of the Admission Act; that is, incorporate by reference, the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act's definition of the term. This would assure that the term "native Hawaiian" refers to the same individuals referred to in section 5(f) of the Admission Act and chapter 10, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and by the delegates to the 1978 Constitutional Convention in drafting the

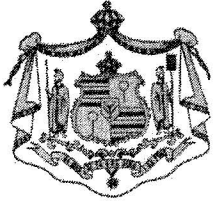
Testimony of the Department of the Attorney General
Twenty-Fifth Legislature, 2010
Page 2 of 2

provisions of article XII, sections 4, 5, and 6 of the State Constitution.

Second, section 6 (the effective date provision of this bill) should be re-worded to maintain consistency between the definitions of the term "native Hawaiian" used in the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act and chapter 10, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and to avoid any possibility that section 6 might be construed as allowing the amendment to the definition of "native Hawaiian" in section 10-2 to become effective before the amendment to the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act's definition is consented to by Congress and thus effective, see section 4 of the Admission Act. We recommend that section 6 be re-worded as follows:

SECTION 6. All sections of this Act shall take effect only after the amendment to the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act made in section 1 of this Act is consented to by Congress.

364328_1.DOC



Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs
P. O. Box 1135
Honolulu, Hawai`i 96807

TESTIMONY OF LEIMOMI KHAN, PRESIDENT
EXPRESSING CONCERN
REGARDING HOUSE BILL 2116, RELATING TO NATIVE HAWAIIANS

COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Rep. Mele Carroll, Chair

Rep. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Hearing date, time, location: Wednesday, January 27, 2010, 9:30 a.m., Room 329

January 26, 2010

Aloha, Representative Mele Carroll, Chair; Rep Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair; and Members of the Committee on Hawaiian Affairs.

We write to express concern about H.B. 2116, RELATING TO NATIVE HAWAIIANS. The bill proposes to reduce from 50% to 25% the amount of blood quantum needed to qualify for Hawaiian Homes leases and certain services of the Office of Hawaiian affairs.

Reducing the blood quantum to qualify for Hawaiian Homes leases would be a significant change in policy. We recommend that community meetings on this proposal be conducted to assure full consultation with the Native Hawaiian community.

The Association is a growing national confederation of fifty-eight Hawaiian Civic Clubs, located throughout the State of Hawai`i and in the States of Alaska, California, Colorado, Illinois, Nevada, Utah, Virginia, Washington State, and Tennessee. It initiates and works to support actions that enhance the civic, economic, educational, health and social welfare of our communities, and in particular, the culture and welfare of the Native Hawaiian community.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify regarding House Bill 2116.

Rep. Maile Shimabukuro

From: Malamapono@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2010 9:28 AM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: Rep. Ken Ito; Rep. Jessica Wooley; Sen. Jill Tokuda; Sen. Clayton Hee
Subject: H.B. 2116 - Testimony in support of legislation

Aloha,

The Ko'olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club supports this legislation. Our civic club works with native Hawaiians from the nine ahupua'a of Kualoa, Hakipu'u, Waikane, Waiahole, Ka'alaea, Waihe'e, Kahalu'u, He'eia and Kane'ohe.

Mahalo for this opportunity to offer comment.

A hui hou,

Mahealani Cypher
President
Ko'olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club

Rep. Maile Shimabukuro

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2010 2:31 PM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: soor001@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for HB2116 on 1/27/2010 9:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW 1/27/2010 9:30:00 AM HB2116

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Richard Soo
Organization: SCHHA
Address: 1050 Queen St., Suite 200 Hon., Hi.
Phone: 529-1629
E-mail: soor001@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 1/26/2010

Comments:

I opposed lowering the blood quantum until DHHL has adequately && conducted a beneficiary consultation on the subject. Lowering the && blood && quantum is a monumental revision that will require Congressional && Approval as && per the HHCA 1920, as amended 1921, therefore should only be && considered by the legislature once HHCA && beneficiaries and the SCHHA have ample opportunity to work with our && constituencies to build support and develop approaches that honor the && original beneficiaries on the waiting list. Please table this && matter till then.

WAIMEA HAWAIIAN HOMESTEADERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.

P. O. Box 6753

Kamuela, Hawaii 96743

January 26, 2010

M KANANI KAPUNIAI

Pu'ukapu-Pastoral '90+

Director- **President**

N DUKE KAPUNIAI

Honokaia

Director - **Vice-President**

SHARON MEDEIROS

Puu Pulehu

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Pu'ukapu-Agricultural'85+

Director

FRED LAU

Kuhio Village

Director

HENRY "SOLI" NIHEU"

Pu'ukapu-Farm '85+

Director

DERRICK HONDA

Pu'ukapu-Pastoral <90

Director

TO: Representative Mele Carroll, Chair
Representative Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

FROM: M Kapuniai, President

RE: HB2116
RELATING TO NATIVE HAWAIIANS
Reduces from 50% to 25% the amount of blood quantum needed to qualify for Hawaiian Homes leases and certain services of the office of Hawaiian affairs.

Date/Time: Wednesday, January 27, 210 9:30 a.m.

Place: Conference Room 329
State Capital, 415 So. Beretania St.

We DO NOT SUPPORT this bill.

First of all, combining services to beneficiaries of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, as amended 1921, and that of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs is totally wrong and unacceptable.

Secondly, the applicant rolls for leases from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands is over 25,000, certainly far from solving the goal of providing "rehabilitative programs" for its beneficiaries.

We will, however, strongly consider, at a later date:

- 1) Successor rights to applicants, reduced from 50% to 25%
- 2) Further decrease of Successor Lessee rights from 25% to 12 ½%

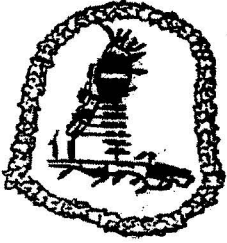
Both of these actions will enable families to "rehabilitate" on trust lands for perpetuity.

We appreciate the opportunity to participate in this process!

Phone: (808) 890-2311 (Res) 936-0157(Cell)

Email: duke@sandwichisles.net

NANAKULI HAWAIIAN



**HOMESTEAD COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION**

January 26, 2010

To: Hawaiian Affairs Committee,
Representative Mele Carroll, Chair and Vice Chair Maile
Shimabukuro, members of the Committee;

EXECUTIVE BOARD

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DIRECTOR
ESTHER KEIKI

This letter is being written in OPPOSITION to HB2116, Relating to Native Hawaiians, Blood Quantum

I am Kamaki Kanahele, President of the Nanakuli Hawaiian Homestead Community Association. I view this Bill as untimely and insecure as to the impact of native Hawaiians as presently defined in the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920. Untimely, because of the Akaka Bill being heard in Congress and insecure because it was never brought out to the people it would impact on the most, namely, the waiting list exceeding 20,000 (waiting for more than 20 to 30 years to receive an award), the Administrative and budget-wise ability for the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) to accommodate the possibility of 100,000 more claimants when fewer than 7,000 have been served with an award or a house in the last 70 years.

I recommend that this bill have both public hearings and beneficiary consultation with the DHHL so that its impact on the State, DHHL, beneficiaries, and the Akaka Bill can be best either clarified or understood.

Mahalo,

Kamaki Kanaheke, President
NHHCA

cc. NHHCA Board

1/27/09

To: House Representative Mele Carroll, Chair
COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS and

Rep. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Rep. Della Au Belatti
Rep. Scott Y. Nishimoto
Rep. Joe Bertram, III
Rep. Ryan I. Yamane
Rep. Tom Brower
Rep. Gene Ward
Rep. John M. Mizuno

HEARING DATE : WEDNESDAY, 1/27/2010, 9:30am

Subject: Testimony to **HB 2116 RELATING TO NATIVE HAWAIIANS.**
Reduces from 50% to 25% the amount of blood quantum needed to qualify for Hawaiian Homes leases and certain services of the office of Hawaiian affairs.

Chairwoman Carroll and members of the House Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

Aloha. My name is Orson Enos and I am the president of the Papakolea Community Association.

The Papakolea Community Association (PCA) strongly opposes HB 2116, Relating to Native Hawaiians. **PCA does not support any harmful changes to the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1921, as amended and therefore would like to see this bill rejected.**

At no such time has the author(s) of this bill consulted with the beneficiaries of the Papakolea Hawaiian homestead.

Established in May 1934, the Papakolea Community Association exists to direct its efforts toward the betterment of all residents living on Papakolea Hawaiian Homestead Land. PCA's primary purpose is to defend, preserve and protect the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1921, as amended. Papakolea is located in the urban core of Honolulu on the island of Oahu. Our community is comprised of 422 homes with approximately 1,800 native Hawaiians,

Papakolea stands firm on its opposition to HB 2116.

Respectfully submitted,

ORSON ENOS

(808)520-8998 email:pca@papakolea.org

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Rep. Mele Carroll, Chair

Wednesday, January 27, 2010

9:30 a.m., Conf.Rm.329, State Capitol

Testimony Relating to HB 2116

LATE TESTIMONY
SUPPORT
HB
2116

Madame Chair, distinguished Committee members and others:

I am Keoni Kealoha Agard, a Native Hawaiian, a concerned citizen, and also President of Hawaii Going Green, LLC, a non profit organization established to provide services to the elderly in the energy efficiency field and related areas. I testify today on behalf of said organization. We are testifying in support of HB 2116.

Since the passage of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act "HHCA" in July 1921, there have been many changes. The Hawaiian population over the decades has increased in a huge way. At the time of passage there were about 40,000 Native Hawaiians. The 2000 U.S. Census now reflects two separate categories, including a Hawaiian category and part Hawaiian category, when combined total over 430,000. Regarding interracial marriages, Hawaiians lead the entire State of Hawaii. With the continuing trend in more and more Hawaiians being born in Hawaii, there likewise creates a greater and greater need for Hawaiians and their family members for the basic necessities of life. Furthermore, the HHC over eight decades has limited those that can qualify for a homestead pursuant to the current restriction on blood quantum to 50%. The reality today is that we have a greatly reduced population of 50% and an ever increasing number of those that are 25% blood quantum, or less.

In order to meet the changing times, and to further address the increasing need for more housing to all Hawaiians, it makes sound government policy to take steps now to initiate a reduction in the blood quantum.

In that light, HB 2116 calls for a change in the definition of "Native Hawaiian" to "any descendant of not less than one quarter... blood quantum.

If this proposed bill passes, it will take into account the thousands of other Hawaiians that are currently excluded from participation in the HHL program.

If this proposed legislation passes, then we request that in order to be fair to those already placed on the HHL wait list, that a priority be given to those on the existing wait list when a homestead lease becomes available, and that the new group of one quarter blood quantum be placed on the wait list as a second priority.

We thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony before your committee.

House of Representatives – 25th Legislature
Regular Session of 2010

Committee: Hawaiian Affairs
Chairperson: Honorable Mele Carroll
Vice-Chair: Honorable Maile Shimabukuro
Hearing: January 27, 2010

Re: Testimony in Support of H.B. 2116

Aloha Chairperson Carroll, Vice-Chair Shimabukuro and Honorable Board Members:

My name is Dexter K. Kaiama and I wish to submit my testimony in support of H.B. 2116 as it provides for the reduction of the blood quantum requirement, from 50% to 25% for the identification and resulting qualifications of a “Native Hawaiian” under the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1920 with the following comments:

- (a) Prince Jonah Kuhio and the Hawaiian delegation submitting testimony on Congressional enactment of the HHCA, 1920, originally opposed the creation of a blood quantum requirement and, when pressed by the Congressional committee, recommended a blood quantum requirement of only 1/32 Hawaiian blood. Those actions indicated a clear intent by the Hawaiian delegation that blood quantum was of no importance and an insignificant criteria for meeting the land and housing issue for his kanaka constituents and was contrary to a people who were inclusive by their nature and in their actions;
- (b) I and most of the Hawaiian people identify with each other, not on the basis of a blood quantum designation, but more based upon the ties to our ancestors “inhabiting the Hawaiian islands prior to 1778;”
- (c) In fact, the HHCA is federal designation based upon the principals of racism, that serves only divide the Hawaiian people by dictating the class of

Hawaiians qualified for inclusion under the HHCA and benefits that may be derived from said inclusion;

- (d) That H.B. 2116 be the first step, of an enlightened people and government, in the eventual dismantling and removal of a blood quantum requirement under the HHCA; and
- (e) Passage of H.B. 2116 be submitted by this Committee and/or the Hawai'i State Legislature to Congress requesting revisions and/or amendments of HHCA for the reductions passed by this bill.

Mahalo nui,

Dexter K. Kaiama
700 Richards Street, Suite 805
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813
Tel. No. (808) 545-2922

Legislative Testimony

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2010
H.B. 2116, Relating to Native Hawaiians

COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Rep. Mele Carroll, Chair
Rep. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Wednesday, January 27, 2010

9:30 a.m.

Room: 329

As a Native Hawaiian Individual, I **SUPPORT HB 2116**, which amends the definition of "Native Hawaiian" in Section 201, subsection (a) Hawaiian Homes Commission Act.

Lowering the blood quantum from 50% or one-half to 25% or one quarter is not only Pono but inherently responsible for the future of Native Hawaiian Children. I believe that it is critically important for our State to adopt this measure. This measure will not only promote, but also open up opportunities for Native Hawaiians in homeownership. In addition, it will circumvent or future generations the Houseless Native Hawaiian individuals in our Community.

A high percentage of Native Hawaiians live in multifamily households. This is due to economics and the lack of affordable housing available in our state. A large percentage of Native Hawaiians who are of less than the 50% blood quantum are not only excluded from obtaining a chance to qualify for an affordable home due to this act, but are also excluded from qualifying for Affordable Homes in the open market due to over qualification to income standards set. The 49% or less than Native Hawaiian is now limited to one option and that is the open housing market, which they cannot afford.

The financial savings, which comes from owning a home on Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, is significant. The cost savings of purchasing a home compared to the traditional open market at fair value is immense and might possibly be enough to help the lower to middle class Native Hawaiian family economically by, making right choices with there finances and moreover, eliminate the poverty level of Native Hawaiians for future generations.

Opponents of this measure may be concerned that lowering the blood quantum would impede the process of obtaining a lease by increasing the number of applicants requesting homeownership though Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. However of the current 50% or more Native

Hawaiians on the waiting list, either deny the lease given due to locations or can not qualify for a loan to meet the financial obligations of homeownership. It is not to say that 25% lower blood quantum individuals can meet the financial obligations, but it will allow more Native Hawaiians in a financially secured position to become homeowners by placing them on these lease lands as other Native Hawaiians before them.

The Hawaiian Homes Commission Act should not limit the choices of the generations of Native Hawaiians that follow, and the amendment to this act is necessary and in the right direction for the Native Hawaiian population.

I urge the Committee to PASS HB 2116. Thank you for the opportunity to submit my written testimony.

Kanani Kaaiawahia Bulawan

TESTIMONY – SUPPORT HB 2116: RELATING TO NATIVE HAWAIIANS

**TO: Rep. Mele Carroll, Chair, Rep. Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair, and Members,
House Committee on Hawaiian Affairs**

HEARING: Wednesday, January 27, 2010, 9:30 am; CR 329

Chair Carroll, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and members of the committee:

Aloha Kaua, Mahalo piha for the opportunity to provide testimony on this bill. I'm Kanani Kaaiawahia Bulawan, a Kanaka Maoli and homeowner resident of Maili. I **SUPPORT** this bill which would reduce the blood quantum requirements to qualify for DHHL leases and certain services offered by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA).

I am a homeowner not of Hawaiian Homestead but of private property. I support this bill as my children and other family members would qualify should the blood quantum be reduced from 50% to 25%. In addition to this, I have experienced a number of "Part-Hawaiian" individuals and families who would be eligible and have the hope and motivation to seeking permanent housing through this opportunity. Our "houseless" community is made up of a huge percentage of "Part-Hawaiian" that would otherwise be considered "Native Hawaiian" through this measure.

I commend the committee and chair for taking on such a NO BRAINER of a bill and give some form of comfort to our people by way of supporting self-sufficiency through homeownership. Mahalo for giving me this time and for hearing my testimony.

Legislative Testimony

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2010

H.B. 2116, Relating to Native Hawaiians

COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Rep. Mele Carroll, Chair
Rep. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Wednesday, January 27, 2010

9:30 a.m.

Room: 329

As a Native Hawaiian Individual, I **SUPPORT** **HB 2116**, which amends the definition of "Native Hawaiian" in Section 201, subsection (a) Hawaiian Homes Commission Act.

Lowering the blood quantum from 50% or one half to 25% or one quarter is not only Pono but inherently responsible for the future of Native Hawaiians Children. I believe that it is critically important for our State to adopt this measure. It will promote and open more opportunities to Native Hawaiians for homeownership and ease not homelessness but the Houselessness of the Native Hawaiian Community.

A high percentage Native Hawaiians live in multifamily households due economics. The financial savings of owning a home on Department of Hawaiian Home Lands lease property is not insignificant. The cost savings of purchasing a home compared to the traditional fair market value is immense and might possibly be enough to help the lower to middle class Native Hawaiian family economically to make right choices with there finances and eliminate the poverty level of Native Hawaiians for future generations.

Opponents of this measure may be concerned that lowering the blood quantum would impede the process of obtaining a lease by increasing the number of applicants requesting homeownership though Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. However of the current 50% or more Native Hawaiians on the waiting list, either deny the lease given due to locations or can not qualify for a loan to meet the financial obligations of homeownership. It is not to say that 25% lower blood quantum individuals can meet the financial obligations, but it will allow more Native Hawaiians in a financially secured position to become homeowners as other Native Hawaiians before them.

The Hawaiian Homes Commission Act should not limit the choices of the generations of Native Hawaiians that follow, and the amendment to this

act is necessary and in the right direction for the Native Hawaiian population.

I urge the Committee to PASS HB 2116. Thank you for the opportunity to submit my written testimony.

Rep. Maile Shimabukuro

From: Jarnett Lono [jarnett.lono@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2010 9:41 AM
To: HAWtestimony
Subject: HB2116

January 26, 2010

HB 2116 - Relating to Native Hawaiians

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in opposition of HB 2116-Relating to Native Hawaiians. As a current applicant that meets the 50% blood quantum, this change may affect my status to obtain in a lease to someone with a lesser amount that applied after my siblings and I. According to DHHL there are 40,084 applicants on the waitlist as of June 30, 2009. The Department is doing their best to meet the demand of the already overcrowded list of applicants waiting their turn to qualify for a home. Reducing the blood quantum, in my opinion, will take away from the very purpose Prince Kuhio strived for, ultimately leading to the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act (HHCA) enroute to congress and signed into law in 1921.

Enabling current applicants and other Native Hawaiians with educational opportunities of financial literacy will reduce the number of applicants on the waitlist and move more natives into homes. DHHL should audit the extensive waitlist to determine if the applicants are 1) alive or deceased (if deceased removed from the list); 2) still interested in a lease; and 3) get feedback on how DHHL can assist the applicant in obtaining an award - i.e. financial assistance, education, location(s), life changes... Another suggestion is to implement an educational advancement program for the next generation of Native Hawaiians within the newly developed homestead communities to preserve the culture and history of our people and foster community involvement.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony in opposition of HB 2116.

Respectfully submitted,
Jarnett Lono
Papakolea Resident
DHHL Applicant, 1998 Oahu, Transferred to Hawaii 2008

Rep. Maile Shimabukuro

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2010 4:35 AM
To: HAWtestimony
Cc: kahukama@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for HB2116 on 1/27/2010 9:30:00 AM

Testimony for HAW 1/27/2010 9:30:00 AM HB2116

Conference room: 329
Testifier position: oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Rev. N. Tasha Kama
Organization: Individual
Address: P. O. Box 503 Wailuku, Hawaii
Phone: (808) 298-8276
E-mail: kahukama@aol.com
Submitted on: 1/26/2010

Comments:

I am a beneficiary of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1921 as amended. I received an agricultural lease in 1986 and have yet to move onto my homestead due to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands' priority to develop residential housing for the rehabilitation of the native Hawaiians over the past 23 years. Prior to Kahikinui, Leialii, Waiehu Kou 2,3, and 4 on Maui, Laiopua on the Big Island, Princess Kahanu Estates, Kalawahine, and Kapolei on Oahu, I have had my Keokea lease.

Lowering of the blood quantum will cause those who already hold a lease to wait even longer to access their lands, not to mention those currently qualified beneficiaries on the waiting list.

In 1972, my husband filed for Hawaiian Home Lands and was passed over for a lease in 1985 due to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands' poor management of the trust.

Lowering the blood quantum will stymie the delivery of homestead leases and LAND to the beneficiaries due to the limited resources of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

To entertain lowering of the blood quantum without consulting the beneficiaries needs to be considered.

I would this legislative body to allow the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to conduct beneficiary consultations throughout the state to enlist the input of a body of people who will be deeply impacted by this measure.