TESTIMONY SCR 71



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF HAWAII STATE CAPITOL HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

March 2, 2010

Testimony of Representative Faye P. Hanohano before the Senate Committee on Water, Land Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs in **OPPOSITION** to the following Senate Concurrent Resolutions:

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SCR71 AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF STATE LANDS AT HANAPEPE, WAIMEA, KAUAI, FOR RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES.

Aloha Chair Hee and the the Senate Committee on Water, Land Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs. He pila hewa kēia. (These are wrongful bills.) I urge you to remember the wisdom of our Hawaiian ancestors – He ali'i ka 'āina, he kauwa ke kanaka (Land is the chief and man is the servant).

Land is a valuable resource and it is the State's responsibility to hold these lands in trust for all the people of the State. Rather than sell these lands for short term gain we need to find sustainable solutions such as long term leases. Selling the lands will deplete Hawai'i's resources for the future generations. Is this the legacy that the 25th Legislative body wants to leave to our children?

I urge you to please hold these measures

Mahalo,

Faye P. Hanohano State Representative, District 4

LINDA LINGLE GOVERNOR OF HAWAI





LAURA H. THIELEN CIAIRFERSON 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 CCEAN RECREATION BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CONSERVATION AND DESOURCES ENFORCEMENT ENGINEERING FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE HISTORIC PRESERVATION KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION LAND STATE PARS

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of LAURA H. THIELEN Chairperson

Before the Senate Committee on WATER, LAND, AGRICULTURE, AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Wednesday, March 3, 2010 3:15 PM State Capitol, Conference Room 229

In consideration of SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 71 – AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF STATE LANDS AT HANAPEPE, WAIMEA, KAUAI, FOR RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES

Senate Concurrent Resolution 71 authorizes the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to sell state land to Robert E. Farlander, for residential purposes pursuant to Section 171-64.7, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS). The Department urges adoption of this Administration measure.

On June 24, 1993, the Department held a public auction for the sale of a 28,173 square foot residential property and the successful bidder was Mr. Robert E. Farlander for \$107,000. On June 3, 1994, Mr. Farlander entered into an installment agreement with the Department. The agreement required a down payment of \$10,700, with the balance of \$96,300 to be paid in twenty (20) quarterly installments at 8% interest. The purchase amount was paid in full on June 30, 1998 by Mr. Farlander.

The Department's issuance of a deed, or land patent grant conveying fee simple title to Mr. Farlander is the final act required to complete the transaction.

Mr. Farlander has built his residence on the residential property and has no plans to develop it beyond that.

An information briefing on the proposed sale was conducted on December 10, 2009 at Hanapepe Community Center in Hanapepe, Kauai.

This concurrent resolution is requested to allow the Department to sell state land as required under Section 171-64.7, HRS.

PAGE 02/06 2/26/10 P2/6

Dear Commiter Members My Name & Robert Farlander and Im humbly requesting that we resolve the issue of title transfer. Seventeen years has elapsed since I entered into a special sales agreement with the State sam move 66 years old and in a very poor state of health, thus making it a priority to get my affairs in order and establish a trust. your approval of SCR 71 would alloy my fears and enable this process to take place I might add that their was a public hearing held in Hanapepe, Kavar on 12/10/09 discussing this case with no dyections voiced and also passed the house Commitee without desction Sincerely Robert Farlander

Elaine Dunbar P.O.Box 861 Lihue, Hawaii 96766 Tel: 808-635-7006

March 1, 2010

To: <u>COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AGRICULTURE AND HAWAIIAN</u> <u>AFFAIRS</u>

Sen. Clayton Hee, Chair and Members Sen. Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair

Sen. Robert Bunda Sen. Carol Fukunaga Sen. Russel S. Kokubun Sen. Dwight Y. Takamine Sen. Fred Hemmings

DATE: Wednesday, 3-3-10 TIME: 3:15 PM

REGARDING TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO:

<u>SCR71</u> Authorizing The Sale Of State Lands At Hanapepe, Waimea, Kauai For Residential Purposes

Aloha Chair Hee and Members,

In 1993 Robert E. Farlander purchased a parcel of state land (Tax Map Key: (4) 1-9-10:50, Hanapepe, Waimea, Kauai) through auction. An informational meeting was held in December 2009 but there are no minutes/information resulting from that meeting. The 1993 sale should be considered an illegal transaction; the new law establishing the sale of state land by two thirds vote had not even been enacted until approximately sixteen years later.

The questions many people are raising now are:

1. How did this sale come to be in 1993 when it was strictly forbidden to sell state lands?

2. By what authorization was Robert Farlander permitted to buy state land and build a residence on that land?

- 3. Why wasn □t the land leased instead?
- 4. Who is Robert E. Farlander?
- 5. Does he/did he actually exist or is he a fictitious person?

6. Is this land former Kingdom land?

7. Why hasn \Box t there been an audit of the state lands?

8. There has been no resolution of Hawaiian land claims so how can this be slipped through in a manner such as this?

9. Is this an indication of future indiscriminate handling of attempted state land sales?

This is a serious matter. The new law establishing a two thirds vote for the consideration to sell state lands was in no way intended to allow a free-for-all or unfettered dispensing of Hawaii land. At present, the concurrent resolution apparently *reauthorizing* this illegal sale and at this late date with no other supporting documents for background, discussion or research purposes is highly suspicious. Clarification is needed as well as an audit of ceded lands in Hawaii. It is premature to be selling off state lands when those lands are yet to be properly inventoried and especially since the Hawaiian land claims are still unresolved. The move invites serious abuse. Besides the procedural issues, there are problems with Hawaiians who may still have claims and/or questions arising regarding legal title *after the land is sold*. In addition there has been no formal political recognition of the inherent sovereignty, even by the Akaka bill, to allow this injudicious attempt to sell state land.

Please kill this measure.

Sincerely,

Elaine Dunbar

TESTIMONY SCR 71 (END)