

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, January 29, 2011 2:39 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: sterlingw@oha.org
Subject: Testimony for HB397 on 1/31/2011 10:00:00 AM
Attachments: HB 397 Act 176 Amendments.pdf

Testimony for WLO/HAW 1/31/2011 10:00:00 AM HB397

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Sterling Wong
Organization: Office of Hawaiian Affairs
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Submitted on: 1/29/2011

Comments:

Please note that OHA CEO Clyde Namuo will testify on behalf of OHA. Mahalo



HB 397
RELATING TO THE LANDS CONTROLLED BY THE STATE
House Committee on Water, Land and Ocean Resources
House Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

January 31, 2011

10:00 a.m.

Room 325

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) strongly **SUPPORTS** HB 397. This bill requires more timely notice of, and greater specificity in, resolutions for legislative consideration involving anticipated sales, gifts, or exchange of state-controlled lands.

Act 176, Session Laws of Hawaii 2009, established a more comprehensive process for the sale or gift of state-owned land, and reserved a larger oversight role for the Legislature to assure that key information about certain sales, gifts, or exchanges of land is shared with the Legislature and OHA.

A key element in this process involves state departments submitting for consideration, legislative resolutions containing information as to their anticipated land transactions. The law requires that OHA receive a copy of each resolution when it is submitted to the Legislature.

During the 2010 Regular Session, substantial numbers of "Act 176 resolutions" moved through both houses of the Legislature, but OHA's full consideration of the resolutions, in anticipation of legislative hearings, was hindered because of the limited time between OHA's receipt of the resolutions and the Legislature's consideration of the resolutions. Furthermore, the resolutions were not always informative regarding a matter of great interest to OHA: whether the land was formerly crown or government land of the Kingdom of Hawai'i.

HB 397 is designed to facilitate OHA's review by requiring that the resolutions be transmitted to OHA six months prior to the convening of the Legislature and by requiring additional detail in the resolutions, including an explanation of whether the land was classed as government or crown land previous to August 15, 1895, or was acquired by the State in exchange for such lands. We respectfully suggest that requiring the additional detail could assist the Legislature in considering the potential impact of the transaction to the ceded lands, the public land trust, and other key policy matters.

We urge your Committees to PASS SB 984.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.

hawaii

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, January 29, 2011 3:49 PM
To: WLOtestimony
Cc: acamaral@yahoo.com
Subject: Testimony for HB397 on 1/31/2011 10:00:00 AM
Attachments: HB 397 Rel to lands controlled by the state testimony.doc

Testimony for WLO/HAW 1/31/2011 10:00:00 AM HB397

Conference room: 325
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Soulee Stroud
Organization: Association of Hawn. Civic Clubs
Address: 5015 Kalia St, Honolulu, HI 96816
Phone: [REDACTED]
E-mail: [REDACTED]
Submitted on: 1/29/2011

Comments:

ASSOCIATION OF HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUBS

TESTIMONY BY
PRESIDENT SOULEE STROUD

IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 397 Relating to Lands Controlled by the State

Before the Joint Committees on
Water, Land & Ocean Resources and Hawaiian Affairs
February 2, 2011; 10:00 a; Room 325

Aloha Mr. Chairman Chang, Madame Chair Hanohano and members of the joint committees. I am Soulee Stroud, President of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs here today to support the passage of House Bill 397 .

The first civic club was founded in 1918 and we continue to thrive with clubs on all islands of the State of Hawaii, 11 states on the continent and the District of Columbia. We now have more than fifty component clubs participating in those activities that our founders envisioned – historic preservation, education of Native Hawaiian students, protection of traditional culture and advocacy for Hawaiian Home Lands. We have also been very supportive of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs(OHA) since its inception, and partnered with OHA on many occasions.

On January 18 , members of the Board and I met with OHA administrative staff, and received a briefing and summaries of the OHA package.

A few days later, on January 22, 2011 the Board of Directors met in a quarterly meeting that included Board members from all islands and several from the continent. Our agenda included a discussion of the OHA legislative package and the Board was unanimous in its vote to support the entire package.

HB 397, is a part of the OHA legislative package and a critical measure because it seeks to assure that the Office of Hawaiian Affairs is informed six months prior to the submittal of all concurrent resolutions seeking the sale or exchange of ceded lands. This bill provides, in part, the specific size, purpose, and plans for the public lands that are being exchanged. It also requires a statement of whether the land in question is land classified as government prior to 1895 or acquired by the State later.

It is important that the State monitor the reduction of the public corpus, as the State has the responsibility of a public trust to its citizens. Similarly, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, has as its mission, the "betterment of conditions of Native Hawaiians". This mission is funded, in part, by a twenty per cent, pro rata share of the income derived from our public land trust.

We support all mechanisms that shall keep the Office of Hawaiian Affairs informed of the trust corpus and provide the ability for OHA to assure their ability to conduct their kuleana for na kanaka oiwi.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony . We urge your support of these measure.

For further information please contact our Government Relations Chair, Jalna Keala at jalna.keala2@hawaiiantel.net.