

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR  
STATE OF HAWAII



**LATE TESTIMONY**

ALBERT "ALAPAKI" NAHALE-A  
CHAIRMAN  
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION

ROBERT J. HALL  
DEPUTY TO THE CHAIRMAN

**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS**

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COMMENTS OF ALAPAKI NAHALE-A, CHAIRMAN  
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION  
BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS ON

**HR 283/HCR 318, REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS TO  
CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF DEVELOPING AN ARENA  
AND TESTING AND INSPECTION FACILITY ON HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS ON MOLOKAI  
FOR THE PURPOSE OF TESTING BACKYARD POULTRY FLOCKS FOR AVIAN DISEASES**

March 30, 2011

Aloha Chair Hanohano, Vice-Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) appreciates the intent of this resolution and recognizes the potential public health threat posed by avian disease. Our beneficiaries on Molokai have also raised concerns related to the need for inspection and testing. While the scope of this task force is beyond the purview of our department, we do have an interest in supporting our homesteaders. We respectfully urge your committee to include other state and county agencies that may have expertise in this area, and assign the lead on this task force to another agency whose mission and objectives are more in line with this task. Also, we ask that you consider extending the time requirement imposed on the task force. As written, the resolution requires a report to be produced and submitted to the legislature within the next three months. This is unreasonable.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.