

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII



LATE TESTIMONY

ALBERT "ALAPAKI" NAHALE-A
CHAIRMAN DESIGNATE
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION

ROBERT J. HALL
DEPUTY TO THE CHAIRMAN

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

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TESTIMONY OF ALAPAKI NAHALE-A, CHAIRMAN DESIGNATE
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION
BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
ON HB 1483, RELATING TO THE MOLOKAI IRRIGATION SYSTEM

February 2, 2011

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

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands supports the purpose and intent of this bill to carry out the objectives of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act as it relates to our Molokai agricultural lessees and their ability to adequately access the Molokai irrigation system (MIS). This bill restores a benefit to these lessees and we appreciate this, and similar measures, that enable our agricultural lessees to be successful.

The department supports this measure provided that sufficient funding is made available to the Department of Agriculture to cover the operational costs of the MIS. We recommend thorough discussion and consultation with the Department of Agriculture (the lead agency) and the MIS users to ensure this reduced rate is pragmatic and sustainable.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.