



LATE TESTIMONY
ALAPAKI NAHALE-A
CHAIRMAN
MICHELLE K. KAUHANE
DEPUTY TO THE CHAIRMAN
M. WAIALEALE SARSONA
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

P. O. BOX 1879
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

TESTIMONY OF ALAPAKI NAHALE-A, CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION
BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
IN SUPPORT OF

HB 2531, RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION ACT

February 27, 2012

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

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands strongly supports HB 2531, which allows for the suspension of administrative rules for the purpose of awarding a lease to a native Hawaiian who has been on the waitlist for at least 20 years. This bill is part of the Governor's administrative package by request of our department.

As the department develops varied homestead products to immediately meet the current needs of its longest-waiting applicants, the ability to suspend the department's administrative rules can eliminate barriers that have prevented Hawaiian Home Lands applicants from receiving a homestead lease. Of the 21,151 residential applicants, 6,740 have been on the waiting list for at least 20 years. This measure targets nearly one-third of the native Hawaiians who are waiting for a lease and who may otherwise never be able to accept a lease award.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in strong support of this important measure.



LATE TESTIMONY

HB2531
RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION ACT
House Committee on Finance

February 27, 2012

10:00 a.m.

Room 308

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) offers the following comments on HB2531, which would allow the chairman of the Department of Hawaiian Homelands (DHHL), with unanimous consent of the commission, to suspend administrative rules and award a lease to a beneficiary who has been on the waitlist for at least twenty years.

Our primary observation is that the bill could greatly benefit from further details to support its main proposal. For example, the justification for the bill indicates that the waiver would allow DHHL to provide beneficiaries with access to new products it is developing. However, the bill itself does not explain when and how the waiver can be used. The bill is also silent regarding other significant details. Therefore, we recommend that the following points be addressed in either the preamble, the body of the bill, or through rule making:

- How DHHL will justify choosing between multiple beneficiaries who have been applicants for more than twenty years.
- Why twenty years is the operative cut-off date.
- That the waiver is meant to facilitate the placement of families into new DHHL products such as multi-generational housing (if that is, in fact, the intent of the waiver).

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 26, 2012 11:00 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: info@schha.com
Subject: Testimony for HB2531 on 2/27/2012 10:00:00 AM

LATE TESTIMONY

Testimony for FIN 2/27/2012 10:00:00 AM HB2531

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Annie Au Hoon, President
Organization: Kewalo Hawaiian Homestead Community Assn., SCHHA
E-mail: info@schha.com
Submitted on: 2/26/2012

Comments:

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 26, 2012 11:00 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: info@schha.com
Subject: Testimony for HB2531 on 2/27/2012 10:00:00 AM

LATE TESTIMONY

Testimony for FIN 2/27/2012 10:00:00 AM HB2531

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Kimo Kelii, Vice President
Organization: Nanakuli Hawaiian Homestead Community Assn., SCHHA
E-mail: info@schha.com
Submitted on: 2/26/2012

Comments:

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 26, 2012 10:59 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: info@schha.com
Subject: Testimony for HB2531 on 2/27/2012 10:00:00 AM

LATE TESTIMONY

Testimony for FIN 2/27/2012 10:00:00 AM HB2531

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Beatrice Hew Len, Secretary
Organization: Mokupuni O Oahu, SCHHA
E-mail: info@schha.com
Submitted on: 2/26/2012

Comments:

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 26, 2012 10:59 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: info@schha.com
Subject: Testimony for HB2531 on 2/27/2012 10:00:00 AM

LATE TESTIMONY

Testimony for FIN 2/27/2012 10:00:00 AM HB2531

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Herbert Hew Len, President
Organization: Waianae Kai Homestead Community Assn, SCHHA
E-mail: info@schha.com
Submitted on: 2/26/2012

Comments: