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STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of WILLIAM J. AILA, JR. Chairperson

Before the Senate Committee on WAYS AND MEANS

Tuesday, February 28, 2012 9:00 A.M. **State Capitol, Conference Room 211**

In consideration of SENATE BILL 2792, SENATE DRAFT 1 RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY REVENUE

Senate Bill 2792, Senate Draft 1 proposes to provide supplemental sources of revenue from renewable energy for the Native Hawaiian Rehabilitation Fund. While the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports the intent of this Administration measure as amended, the Department however requests that this measure be further revised to incorporate the percentage distribution reflected in the companion measure, House Bill 2530, House Draft 1.

Due to the increased workload to meet renewable energy needs in the State of Hawaii, the proposed revisions will ensure that the Department can maintain the necessary resources to effectively manage the Geothermal Program and continue to facilitate land dispositions with renewable energy producers. The Department believes this cost sharing proposal is fair with respect to the needs and obligations of both agencies and meets the objective of this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.

CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

GUY H. KAULUKUKUI

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CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
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LAND
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SB2792 SD1 RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY REVENUE

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

February 28, 2012 9:00a.m. Room 211

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) <u>SUPPORTS</u> SB2792 SD1, which would help ensure steady future revenue for the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL).

The State constitution places a high priority on the rehabilitation of native Hawaiians and created a funding structure for the native Hawaiian Rehabilitation Fund, which was designed to perpetuate for many years. This fund is utilized by DHHL for the important purpose of rehabilitating of native Hawaiians, native Hawaiian families, and Hawaiian homestead communities, which includes the educational, economic, political, social, and cultural processes by which the general welfare and conditions of native Hawaiians are improved and perpetuated. However, the continuing decline in deposits from the fund's main traditional funding source—state receipts from lands previously cultivated as sugarcane lands—necessitates the establishment of a stable alternative funding source to ensure that these resources remain available to DHHL and to native Hawaiians.

Geothermal and other renewable energy research and development have a promising future in Hawai'i, and the royalties and revenue to be derived from these sources and received by the state will likely continue to grow. Therefore, DHHL reasonably looks to these revenue streams as possible alternatives.

Therefore, OHA urges the committee to PASS SB2792 SD1. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.

To: WAM Testimony
Cc: info@schha.com

Subject: Testimony for SB2792 on 2/28/2012 9:00:00 AM

Date: Sunday, February 26, 2012 11:54:40 PM

Testimony for WAM 2/28/2012 9:00:00 AM SB2792

Conference room: 211 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

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Submitted by: Herbert Hew Len, President

Organization: Waianae Kai Homestead Community Assn, SCHHA

E-mail: info@schha.com Submitted on: 2/26/2012

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Submitted by: Kamaki Kanahele, Chairman

Organization: SCHHA E-mail: info@schha.com Submitted on: 2/26/2012

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Submitted by: Kimo Kelii, Vice President

Organization: Nanakuli Hawaiian Homestead Community Assn., SCHHA

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Submitted by: Mike Kahikina, Legislative Chairman

Organization: SCHHA E-mail: info@schha.com Submitted on: 2/26/2012

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Submitted by: Annie Au Hoon, President

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