SB2793,SD1



SB2793 SD1 RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION ACT

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

February 24, 2012 9:30 a.m. Room 016

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) offers the following comments on SB2793 SD1, 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 and committee report 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.

To: <u>JDLTestimony</u>

Cc: <u>olindaaiwohi@yahoo.com</u>

 Subject:
 Testimony for SB2793 on 2/24/2012 9:30:00 AM

 Date:
 Wednesday, February 22, 2012 1:17:33 AM

Testimony for JDL 2/24/2012 9:30:00 AM SB2793

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Oppose
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Olinda Aiwohi

Organization: Paukukalo Hawaiian Homes Community Association

E-mail: olindaaiwohi@yahoo.com

Submitted on: 2/22/2012

Comments:

To Our Honorable Legislators Whom We Trust,

I testify in opposition only because of several reasons: 1) We see that the SCHAA who represents 29 associations supports, but we the Paukukalo HHCA, and are members was never asked if we support this bill. It was never brought to our attention, nor was it put to vote here on Maui. Having no knowledge we cannot support this bill.

2)It is too broad, and we feel the questions which OHA has posed should be answered.3)The DHHL has always awarded lots starting from the oldest number on the list and I don't understand the problem being passed over unless the procedure was done improperly. I have sat in lot awards and watched this process, only once was 1 person passed over and I brought that to the attention of Bobby Hall.4)I, too would like to know the process of elimination and award. With over 6000 names on the list for over 20 years. I hope not by lottery, because that would definitely be wrong. Please ask the Chairman to give a better definition and understanding of the process. I do understand the intent, we now need to know the process.5) Many people remain on the list because they cannot qualify financially, and they are passed over. Please know that we agree in helping those who have waited a very long time, I myself have siblings who are still on the list and have been turned down, or been told their applications have been lost. My aunt Tessie Medeiros died in August, 2003 after waiting over 20 years. I understand fully the intent, the bill just needs to be amended or the Chairman needs to give details as to just how this will be done. I appreciate his wanting to help those "long time" wait listed people. He is a great Chairman and representative if we Hawaiian homesteaders. Mahalo, Olinda Aiwohi, President Paukukalo Hawaiian Homes Community Association

To: <u>JDLTestimony</u>
Cc: <u>info@schha.com</u>

 Subject:
 Testimony for SB2793 on 2/24/2012 9:30:00 AM

 Date:
 Wednesday, February 22, 2012 11:05:37 PM

Testimony for JDL 2/24/2012 9:30:00 AM SB2793

Conference room: 016 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: 2/22/2012

To: <u>JDLTestimony</u>
Cc: <u>info@schha.com</u>

 Subject:
 Testimony for SB2793 on 2/24/2012 9:30:00 AM

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Conference room: 016 Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Mike Kahikina, Legislative Chairman

Organization: SCHHA E-mail: info@schha.com Submitted on: 2/22/2012

To: <u>JDLTestimony</u>
Cc: <u>info@schha.com</u>

 Subject:
 Testimony for SB2793 on 2/24/2012 9:30:00 AM

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 Wednesday, February 22, 2012 11:05:09 PM

Testimony for JDL 2/24/2012 9:30:00 AM SB2793

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Submitted by: Kamaki Kanahele, Chairman

Organization: SCHHA E-mail: info@schha.com Submitted on: 2/22/2012

To: <u>JDLTestimony</u>
Cc: <u>info@schha.com</u>

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Testimony for JDL 2/24/2012 9:30:00 AM SB2793

Conference room: 016 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: 2/22/2012

To: <u>JDLTestimony</u>
Cc: <u>info@schha.com</u>

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Testimony for JDL 2/24/2012 9:30:00 AM SB2793

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Submitted by: Annie Au Hoon, President

Organization: Kewalo Hawaiian Homestead Community Assn., SCHHA

E-mail: info@schha.com Submitted on: 2/22/2012

To: <u>JDLTestimony</u>
Cc: <u>info@schha.com</u>

 Subject:
 Testimony for SB2793 on 2/24/2012 9:30:00 AM

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Testimony for JDL 2/24/2012 9:30:00 AM SB2793

Conference room: 016 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: 2/22/2012