



STATE OF HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM
HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
677 QUEEN STREET, SUITE 300
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
FAX: (808) 587-0600

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Statement of
Karen Seddon
Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation
Before the

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

April 20, 2012 at 3:00 p.m.
Room 308, State Capitol

In consideration of

**SCR 18 APPROVING THE SALE OF THE LEASED FEE INTEREST IN 593
KULIOUOU ROAD, HONOLULU, HAWAII;
SCR 19 APPROVING THE SALE OF THE LEASED FEE INTEREST IN 619
KULIOUOU ROAD, HONOLULU, HAWAII; and
SCR 20 APPROVING THE SALE OF THE LEASED FEE INTEREST IN 644
HOKIOKIO PLACE, HONOLULU, HAWAII.**

The HHFDC supports SCRs 18 through 20. These Concurrent Resolutions are counterparts to HCRs 24 through 26, which the Committee has previously heard. HHFDC is seeking legislative approval to sell the leased fee interest in these single family homes to their respective leasehold owners. All three properties were built in 1980 as part of the Kauhale Aupuni O' Kuliouou affordable for-sale development. Only 4 lessees remain out of the 197 homes in the development. The long-term leases in this development included a clause giving the lessees the contractual right to purchase the leased fee interest in their land.

The fair market value of the leased fee interest in these properties as of July 1, 2011 are as follows:

- 593 Kuliouou Road -- \$228,700;
- 619 Kuliouou Road -- \$230,000; and
- 644 Hokiokio Place -- \$201,700.

A title search conducted by Title Guaranty of Hawaii on July 27, 2011, showed that these parcels were classified as Government lands previous to August 15, 1895.

HHFDC conducted a public meeting on the proposed sale on August 10, 2011, at Niu Valley Intermediate School, Honolulu, Hawaii, following publication of notice in the Honolulu Star-Advertiser newspaper on August 4 and 7, 2011. There was no objection to the proposed sale raised at that time.

HHFDC has also worked with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs during the interim to keep them informed of these findings and intent to sell the leased fee interest in these parcels. Copies of the draft resolutions were provided to OHA on October 3, 2011.

We respectfully request your favorable consideration of SCR 18, SCR 19, and SCR20. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



**SCR 18, SCR 19, SCR 20, SCR 21, SCR 22, SCR 23, SCR 24, and SCR 25
APPROVING THE SALE OF THE LEASED FEE INTEREST IN CERTAIN LANDS**
House Committee on Finance

April 20, 2012

3:00 p.m.

Room 308

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) offers the following comments on SCR 18, SCR 19, SCR 20, SCR 21, SCR 22, SCR 23, SCR 24, and SCR 25, which approve the sale of the leased fee interest in certain lands. These resolutions were all offered for consideration by the Legislature in accordance with Act 176, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2009. Among other things, Act 176 requires a two-thirds majority vote of both houses of the Legislature before any specific lands controlled by the State can be sold (including, but not limited to, ceded lands).

SCR 18, SCR 19, SCR 20, SCR 21, and SCR 22 involve the sale of ceded lands. In the 1993 "Apology Resolution," the United States Congress, referring to Native Hawaiians' loss of control of their lands, stated:

[t]The Republic of Hawaii . . . ceded 1,800,000 acres of crown, government and public lands of the Kingdom of Hawaii, without the consent of or compensation to the Native Hawaiian people of Hawaii or their sovereign government.

Sales of ceded lands raise significant concerns for OHA and its beneficiaries because the Native Hawaiian people's claim to ceded lands has yet to be resolved. OHA urges the Committee to consider these unresolved claims carefully as it deliberates regarding each specific sale.

SCR 23, SCR 24, and SCR 25 do not involve the sale of ceded lands. Accordingly, the comments offered above are not meant to apply to these three measures.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on these important measures.

Date: 03/02/2012

SCR18

I, Lee Chin Wang, as the new owner of 593 Kuliouou Road, Honolulu, HI 96812 would like to purchase the leased land. Although we just moved in a few months ago, we already love this neighborhood. It would be very helpful for me and my family if we could invest the monthly lease rent on the mortgage. Most of my neighbors already purchased their leased lands, and I would like to be one of them. Your help and approval will be greatly appreciated! Thank you very much!

Sincerely,

Lee Chin Wang