



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
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

April 11, 2012

9:35 a.m.

Room 211

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. Sales such as these 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 this unresolved claim 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.