



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

P. O. BOX 1879
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

TESTIMONY OF JOBIE M. K. MASAGATANI, CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON OCEAN, MARINE RESOURCES & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
IN SUPPORT OF

SCR 137 SD 1, REQUESTING THE COORDINATOR ON HOMELESSNESS TO ASSEMBLE A WORKING GROUP TO IDENTIFY INNOVATIVE HOUSING SOLUTIONS FOR HOMELESS NATIVE HAWAIIAN FAMILIES; INVESTIGATE SUITABLE AND AVAILABLE FEDERAL, STATE, COUNTY, AND PRIVATE LAND FOR INNOVATIVE HOUSING PROJECTS; AND PREPARE A PLAN TO DEVELOP A DEMONSTRATION HOUSING PROJECT FOR HOMELESS NATIVE HAWAIIAN FAMILIES THAT CAN SERVE AS A MODEL STATEWIDE.

April 24, 2013

Chair Hanohano, Vice-Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands supports the intent of SCR 137 SD 1, which requests the formation of a working group to identify innovative housing solutions for homeless Native Hawaiian families.

We recognize that a number of our state's homeless and houseless population are beneficiaries of our trust, and we are currently collaborating with the Coordinator on Homelessness to identify ways to address these needs. We defer to the Coordinator on Homelessness on the feasibility and costs of completing the tasks requested in the resolution.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this concurrent resolution.



Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs

P. O. Box 1135

Honolulu, Hawai`i 96807

Testimony of President Soulee Stroud

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON OCEAN, MARINE RESOURCES AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

SCR 137SD1(hscr1725) REQUESTING THE COORDINATOR ON HOMELESSNESS TO ASSEMBLE A WORKING GROUP TO IDENTIFY INNOVATIVE HOUSING SOLUTIONS FOR HOMELESS NATIVE HAWAIIAN FAMILIES; INVESTIGATE SUITABLE AND AVAILABLE FEDERAL, STATE, COUNTY AND PRIVATE LAND FOR INNOVATIVE HOUSING PROJECTS; AND PREPARE A PLAN TO DEVELOP A DEMONSTRATION HOUSING PROJECT FOR HOMELESS NATIVE HAWAIIAN FAMILIES THAT CAN SERVE AS A MODEL STATEWIDE

Wednesday, April 24, 2013; 3: pm; Room 312

Aloha Madam Chair Hanohano, Vice Chair Cullen and members of the Committee. I am Soulee Stroud, president of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs speaking in support of this measure to address the homeless needs of the indigenous population of Hawaii.

We agree that the homeless situation in Hawaii is highly complicated that will require complicated solutions. We agree that a working group could begin to address some of the issues.

We would like to see the bill include a clear distinction to identify the two classes within the indigenous Hawaiian population as defined in current Federal and State law, and provide clarity as to appropriate legal use of public land trust benefits.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Contact: jalna.keala2@hawaiiantel.net



SCR137 SD1

REQUESTING THE COORDINATOR ON HOMELESSNESS TO ASSEMBLE A WORKING GROUP TO IDENTIFY INNOVATIVE HOUSING SOLUTIONS FOR HOMELESS NATIVE HAWAIIAN FAMILIES; INVESTIGATE SUITABLE AND AVAILABLE FEDERAL, STATE, COUNTY, AND PRIVATE LAND FOR INNOVATIVE HOUSING PROJECTS; AND PREPARE A PLAN TO DEVELOP A DEMONSTRATION HOUSING PROJECT FOR HOMELESS NATIVE HAWAIIAN FAMILIES THAT CAN SERVE AS A MODEL STATEWIDE.

House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, & Hawaiian Affairs

April 24, 2013

3:00 p.m.

Room 312

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) offers comments on SCR137 SD1, which requests the coordinator on homelessness to assemble a working group to identify solutions for homeless Native Hawaiian families.

The work requested in this resolution is in line with the Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH) draft plan to end homelessness in Hawai'i. Many of the partners listed in the resolution are either already part of the interagency council or would be readily welcome to any of the meetings.

Work in this area is difficult because the agencies are asked to do more with no additional resources and are expected to handle the disastrous effects from the cuts of mental health and substance abuse programs during the economic downturn.

OHA's most recent work in this area includes but is not limited to:

- Supporting Hawaiian Community Assets tremendous work in creating a financial foundation for homeless families.
- Creating \$900,000 in grant opportunities for housing.
- Providing long-term stable financial support to DHHL.
- Developing leveraged funding opportunities to increase reentry programs for pa'ahao.
- Participation with the Interagency Council on Homelessness.

Mahalo for shining a light on this issue and providing the opportunity to testify on this important measure.

Center for Hawaiian Sovereignty Studies
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Unity, Equality, Aloha for All

To: OMH
From: Kenneth R. Conklin, Ph.D.
Re: SCR 137, SD1
Date: April 22, 2013 for hearing on April 24

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION

I find it shocking that the legislature would even consider developing a homeless program that intentionally excludes seventy-two percent of our homeless population solely on account of race. Shame on you!

SCR 137, SD1, whereas clause #3, says "Native Hawaiians are disproportionately represented among Hawaii's homeless at twenty-eight percent of the homeless served"

So there's the proof that you are aware that seventy-two percent of the homeless are not Native Hawaiian. Yet you propose a study group intended to develop legislation focused exclusively on Native Hawaiian homeless while ignoring the nearly 3/4 of the homeless who lack a drop of the magic blood.

If the program you envision is a good one, why engage in racial discrimination in deciding who can benefit from it? If the program you envision turns out to be a bad one, why would you want to create a racial ghetto that ensures that all the victims who suffer from the bad program are Native Hawaiian?

Stop the racism, and trash this resolution.