

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER & LAND

Thursday, April 18, 2013, at 2:00 pm

SCR 20

Submitting to the Legislature of the State of Hawaii for Review of Action Taken by the Board of Land and Natural Resources on a Land Exchange

Chair Cindy Evans, Vice Chair Nicole Lowen, and Members of the Committee:

I am Naomi Kuwaye, representing Hawaii Baptist Academy. Hawaii Baptist Academy strongly supports SCR 20, which asks the Hawaii State Legislature to approve the proposed land exchange between Hawaii Baptist Academy and the State of Hawai'i, by its Board of Land and Natural Resources.

Hawaii Baptist Academy has been leasing the land under its middle school campus pursuant to a long-term lease with the State. In 2008, the Board of Land and Natural Resources approved in principle a proposed land exchange involving the State land currently leased to Hawaii Baptist Academy for its middle school campus in exchange for land to be determined in the future.

Since 2008, Hawaii Baptist Academy has been working with the State to secure land that met the State's stringent exchange criteria. In late 2010, a property in Waipahu Industrial Park was identified and the owner agreed to be part of this land exchange process.

After conducting due diligence, both Hawaii Baptist Academy and the Board of Land and Natural Resources agreed that this Waipahu Industrial Park property met all of the State's criteria. The Board of Land and Natural Resources subsequently approved the proposed land exchange and submitted it for the Legislature's review and consideration.

Hawaii Baptist Academy would like to express its appreciation to the Board of Land and Natural Resources and its staff at the Department of Land and Natural Resources for all of their work and efforts in supporting this proposed land exchange and respectfully requests this Committee's support and endorsement of SCR 20.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in favor of this land exchange.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

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**Testimony of
WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on
WATER & LAND**

**Thursday, April 18, 2013
2:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**In consideration of
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 20
SUBMITTING TO THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII FOR REVIEW
OF ACTION TAKEN BY THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES ON A
LAND EXCHANGE**

Senate Concurrent Resolution 20 submits to the Legislature for review the Board of Land and Natural Resources' approval in principle of a proposed land exchange between the State of Hawaii and Hawaii Baptist Academy. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this concurrent resolution and provides the following comments.**

As the manager of the public land trust, the Department is responsible for managing approximately 1.3 million acres of public lands. Our responsibilities include managing and maintaining the State's coastal lands and waters, water resources, conservation and forestry lands, historical sites, small boat harbors, parks, and recreational facilities; performing public safety duties (e.g., flood and rock fall prevention); issuing and managing leases of public lands; maintaining unencumbered public lands; and enforcing the Department's rules and regulations. To support the Department's fiduciary duties, the Department utilizes a portion of the public lands under its jurisdiction for revenue generation. These revenues help fund many of the Department's operations and programs that are critical to protection and preservation of the State's historic, cultural and natural resources.

The proposed land exchange is expected to increase revenues and help support the Department fulfill its fiduciary obligations to protect and preserve Hawaii's historic, cultural and natural resources.

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ESTHER KIA'AINA
FIRST DEPUTY

WILLIAM M. TAM
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS