

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 21
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 AND SALE OF PROPERTY**

Senate Concurrent Resolution 21 submits to the Legislature for review the Board of Land and Natural Resources' approval in principle of a proposed land exchange and sale between the State of Hawaii and four Molokai families. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources supports this concurrent resolution and provides the following comments.**

The proposed land exchange and sale stem from a quiet title and partition action filed in 1992 involving five parcels of land on Molokai. The State was named as a defendant in the action. Stipulated judgments were reached in 1996 and 1997 to resolve the title and partition claims. Pursuant to the stipulated judgments, two of the parcels are to be conveyed to the State, one parcel is to be conveyed to the four families involved in the litigation, and two parcels are to be sold, with the proceeds split 39.89% to the State, and 60.11% to the remaining parties. Based on a 1996 appraisal, the combined value the State is to receive under this arrangement is more than the one-half interest that the State has in all the parcels. These values comply with Section 171-50, HRS. The Board of Land and Natural Resources approved the exchange and sale at its meeting of June 8, 2012, Item D-11. Legislative approval of the exchange and sale is needed to finally resolve this matter.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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
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