HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO INTRODUCE FEDERAL LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS WITH FUNDING FOR ITS HOMESTEAD PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands was established under the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1920, as amended, to provide for the rehabilitation of the native Hawaiian people through a government-sponsored homesteading program; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands is to manage the Hawaiian Home Lands trust effectively, to develop and deliver lands to native Hawaiians, and to partner with others towards developing self-sufficient and healthy communities; and

WHEREAS, the intent of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands' Homestead Program is to encourage the economic self-sufficiency of native Hawaiians through the provision of land for residential, agricultural, aquacultural, or pastoral use, and the Department accomplishes this by giving native Hawaiians ninety-nine-year homestead leases at an annual rental of \$1, with the option of extending these leases for an additional one hundred years; and

WHEREAS, thousands of native Hawaiians have waited many years, even decades, for a land lease from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, due in part to limited financial resources necessary for the construction of infrastructure such as roads, water lines, and sewer lines, which are critical to the development of lots that are ready for home construction by leaseholders; now, therefore,

H.R. NO.118

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2014, that the members of Hawaii's congressional delegation are urged to introduce federal legislation to provide the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands with funding for its Homestead Program, including the development of necessary infrastructure; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to members of Hawaii's congressional delegation and the Chairperson of the Hawaiian Homes Commission.

OFFERED BY:

HR LRB 14-1876.doc