

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII



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DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

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LATE

COMMENTS OF JOBIE M. K. MASAGATANI, CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION
BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON OCEAN, MARINE RESOURCES &
HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

**HCR 157/HR 118 - URGING HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO INTRODUCE
FEDERAL LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME
LANDS WITH FUNDING FOR ITS HOMESTEAD PROGRAM.**

March 19, 2014

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

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) supports the general intent of this resolution that urges Hawaii's congressional delegation to provide DHHL with federal funding.

While DHHL is in need of funding for the development of homestead lots to be awarded to our beneficiaries, we currently receive approximately \$12 million per year in funds through the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA) that is administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). DHHL also receives support each year through other federal programs like loan guarantees and insured loans, as well as grants for water and waste water systems on Hawaiian home lands. We are ardently fighting to keep the federal resources we already have because there is great opposition to providing funds to native Hawaiian programs.

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While the intent of this resolution is good, securing additional federal funding for DHHL may not be feasible at this time.

Mahalo for your consideration of our comments.



LATE

HR118, HCR157

Urging Hawai‘i’s Congressional Delegation to Introduce Federal Legislation to Provide the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands With Funding For Its Homestead Program
House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, and Hawaiian Affairs

March 19, 2014

9:45 a.m.

Room 325

The Administration of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) will recommend to the Board of Trustees a position of **SUPPORT** on HR118 and HCR157, which urges Hawai‘i’s congressional delegation to introduce federal legislation to provide the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands with funding for its homestead program.

OHA provides millions of dollars each year to support DHHL’s activities and appreciates efforts to identify additional sources of funding to enable DHHL to fulfill its mission. We encourage continued dialogue among stakeholders concerning funding for DHHL and look forward to participating.

Therefore, OHA urges the Committee to **PASS** HR118 and HCR 157. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on these resolutions.