



**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
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS,
COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES &
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
IN SUPPORT OF

SB 2836, RELATING TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING ON HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

February 7, 2014

Chair Shimabukuro, Chair Chun Oakland, Chair Espero, and Members of
the Committees:

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) is in strong support
on this bill which makes permanent provisions for affordable housing
credits to be requested by DHHL and received from each county for
units developed on Hawaiian home lands. This bill is part of the
Governor's administrative package by request of our department.

Affordable housing credits have afforded the department greater
opportunities to gain resources to develop homesteads and, thus, meet
our mission to return native Hawaiians to our trust lands. Since Act
141 was passed by the legislature in 2009, this program has been very
successful for DHHL, but it is set to repeal in 2015. By making this
program permanent, DHHL can continue to form private-public
partnerships through the exchange of credits creating resources for
the department, and DHHL can earn these resources without requiring
any state funds.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.