



## KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS®

House Committees on  
Ocean, Marine Resources & Hawaiian Affairs and  
Water & Land

Time: 11:45 a.m.

Date: March 7, 2016

Where: State Capitol Room 325

### TESTIMONY

By Kau'i Burgess, Director of Community Relations  
Kamehameha Schools

Good morning Chairs Yamane and Ing, Vice Chairs Lowen and Cullen and members of the House Committee on Water & Land and House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, & Hawaiian Affairs,

Mahalo for this opportunity to comment on House Resolution 21 and House Concurrent Resolution 54.

We appreciate the Legislature's concern for the success and well-being of our people, especially as it relates to encouraging the creation of more residential options for Native Hawaiians in areas with proper infrastructure and other social support systems.

These are key elements in achieving the thriving lāhui we envision for Hawai'i. Partnerships and collaborations such as those encouraged in this Resolution align well with Kūhanauna - the vision and strategic plan Kamehameha Schools has adopted to guide our actions and commitments for the next 25 years. No single entity in our state is able to bring this vision to life without the help of many others around it, so we mahalo the Legislature for acknowledging the strength and value in this collaborative approach.

Kamehameha Schools and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands enjoy a strong working relationship, as evidenced by our ongoing collaborative projects in Mā'ili and Nānākuli, and the concept of exchanging lands between our trusts to advance the well-being of our shared beneficiaries is a topic of great interest.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on this Resolution.

House Committee on Water and Land  
House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, & Hawaiian Affairs  
Monday March 7th, 2016  
State of Hawaii Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
11:45am Room 325

Aloha Kākou,

I am writing in Opposition HR21 and HCR54 Encouraging Kamehameha Schools (KS) to consider land swaps with the State Department of Hawaiian Homelands (DHHL) Aloha Chairman Ing, Chairman Yamane and members of the Water & Land as well as the Ocean Marine Resources, & Hawaiian Affairs Committees, I strongly oppose HR21 and HCR54 encouraging the private ali'i trust of KS to consider land swaps with State of Hawaii run DHHL.

The current hearing culminates from the Homestead Act of 1862 that has a history of manipulation by Western and more recently Eastern settlers in Hawaii to serve government issues rather than Native issues. In the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act (1922) DHHL was tasked with the stewardship of the State of Hawaii. Under the stewardship of DHHL Hawaiian Homelands were diverted to airports, game reserves, parks, schools, and other public facilities (DHHL, 1977). Moreover, federal agencies such as the Army, Navy and Federal Aviation Administration controlled vast acreages while paying only a fraction of market value. Even more alarming, the continued mismanagement of lands under DHHL left approximately 10% unaccounted for (Hawai'i Advisory Committee, 1980). To address the history and ongoing mismanagement and underfunding of DHHL by the State of Hawaii - a reasonable and prudent act of reparation would be to encourage the State of Hawaii and the Federal Government to "consider land swaps" with DHHL rather than elected officials current focus on the kleptocracy of ali'i trusts.

HR21 and HCR54 cannot be supported because it is an attempt to manipulate a private ali'i trust through propaganda, rhetoric and the passing of laws to enable development. Furthermore, these hearings need to address the blatant issues surrounding conflict of interests with stakeholder leadership and their collusive relationships to developers, organizations and politicians that have been the root of Native Hawaiian disenfranchisement for generations HR21 and HCR54 is another attempt at the kleptocracy of an ali'i trust. Are we really that naïve to think that homeless Hawaiians will be relocated to Hawaii Kai? Or do we see plutocratic move for the elite to secure prime real estate in the islands for the interests of family and friends? Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Me ka ha'aha'a,  
A. Leimaile Quitevis

# Desiré DeSoto, MSCP

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84-072 Makau St, Makaha, Hawaii 96792 | desiremakaha@gmail.com

House Committee on Water and Land

House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, & Hawaiian Affairs

Monday March 7th, 2016

State of Hawaii Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

11:45am Room 325

## **In Opposition HR21 and HCR54 Encouraging Kamehameha Schools (KS) to consider land swaps with the State Department of Hawaiian Homelands (DHHL)**

Aloha Chairman Ing, Chairman Yamane and members of the Water & Land as well as the Ocean Marine Resources, & Hawaiian Affairs Committees,

I strongly oppose HR21 and HCR54 encouraging the private ali'i trust of KS to consider land swaps with State of Hawaii run DHHL.

The current hearing culminates from the Homestead Act of 1862 that has a history of manipulation by Western and more recently Eastern settlers in Hawaii to serve government issues rather than Native issues. In the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act (1922) DHHL was tasked with the stewardship of the State of Hawaii. Under the stewardship of DHHL Hawaiian Homelands were diverted to airports, game reserves, parks, schools, and other public facilities (DHHL, 1977). Moreover, federal agencies such as the Army, Navy and Federal Aviation Administration controlled vast acreages while paying only a fraction of market value. Even more alarming, the continued mismanagement of lands under DHHL left approximately 10% un accounted for (Hawai'i Advisory Committee, 1980). To address the history and ongoing mismanagement and underfunding of DHHL by the State of Hawaii - a reasonable and prudent act of reparation would be to encourage the State of Hawaii and the Federal Government to "consider land swaps" with DHHL rather than elected officials current focus on the kleptocracy of ali'i trusts.

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Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

**Sincerely,**

**Desiré DeSoto, MSCP**

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 05, 2016 2:51 PM  
**To:** omhtestimony  
**Cc:** BronsonKSilva@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HCR54 on Mar 7, 2016 11:45AM\*

**HCR54**

Submitted on: 3/5/2016

Testimony for OMH/WAL on Mar 7, 2016 11:45AM in Conference Room 329

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Bronson K. Silva	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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**LATE**

I vehemently OPPOSE HCR54 for the following reasons:

WHEREAS #6 states the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands has been unable to significantly improve the housing rate for its beneficiaries. This is because of the lack of funding by the Legislature and Governor of Hawaii.

WHEREAS #7, #8, #9 and #10 attempts to show Kamehameha Schools as a viable entity to exchange lands with DHHL. The Legislature is attempting to redirect its fiduciary duty to DHHL and making a burden for the Kamehameha Schools.

This reminds me of the 1980s when the legislature forced Kamehameha to sell its properties to its lessee's, putting the Kamehameha School/Bishop Estate (KSBE) community, its families, its alumni and the larger Hawaiian community in depression and anxiety.

The DHHL is not able to meet its mission because of the LACK of FUNDING for its programs as required under the Admissions Act and the Hawaii State Constitution.

This sham appears to be a way for the legislature to circumvent its duties and responsibility to its kanaka Hawaii population.

If the legislature is really concerned about HOUSING and EDUCATION for its native population, it needs to start enacting laws that benefit the native population instead to trying to end run the situation.

I find it appalling that whenever Kanaka Hawaii issues or concerns come up, Reps Souki and Saiki are at the forefront trying not only keep us down, but actually slap us around and hold us back.

Thank you for this opportunity to express my concerns

Larry Kamai  
Wai'anae, Oahu, Hawaii

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 07, 2016 11:47 AM  
**To:** omhtestimony  
**Cc:** dkapua@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HCR54 on Mar 7, 2016 11:45AM



**HCR54**

Submitted on: 3/7/2016

Testimony for OMH/WAL on Mar 7, 2016 11:45AM in Conference Room 329

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kapua Keliikoa-Kamai	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: STRONG OPPOSITION HR 21 / HCR 54 - ENCOURAGING KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS TO CONSIDER THE PRACTICE OF LAND EXCHANGES TO FACILITATE THE DEVELOPMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOMESTEADS IN LOCATIONS THAT BETTER SERVE THE HAWAIIAN PEOPLE. Aloha kakou, Mahalo for your concern of the 27,000 plus applicants on the Hawaiian Home Lands wait list. I agree with many of the points made in HCR 54. However, the number one cause of the disheartening facts is the continuing failure of the state legislature to sufficiently fund the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) since its inception and more-so since 1978! To put it frankly, funding was minuscule most years and totally non-existent several years (\$0.00 funded for 9 years, I believe). What other state Department was appropriated \$0.00 from general funds and expected to meet their mission annually? DHHL is the only constitutionally mandated state Department, so why aren't general funds sufficiently appropriated as required? Why are avenues of funding created for other purposes & departments that aren't even in the state constitution (like the Hawaii Tourism Authority, approximately \$80 million annually)? Why isn't creative legislative funding like this applied to DHHL? I suggest the state legislature take care of it's constitutional mandate BEFORE appropriating funds to other Departments and purposes. Again, mahalo for your concern for our HHL wait list applicants as my family members are eager for these homes in our home land. But please don't defer your kuleana (responsibility) to other entities that already carry many burdens of this fake-state. Let the state legislature take care of all the state residents in all matters. And Kamehameha Schools will educate the keiki o ka aina, as they were established to do by Princess Pauahi. Me ka ha'aha'a, Kapua Keliikoa-Kamai Concerned Wai'anae Homesteader

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STRONG OPPOSITION

HR 21 / HCR 54 - ENCOURAGING KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS TO CONSIDER THE PRACTICE OF LAND EXCHANGES TO FACILITATE THE DEVELOPMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOMESTEADS IN LOCATIONS THAT BETTER SERVE THE HAWAIIAN PEOPLE.

**LATE**

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Concerned Wai'anae Homesteader