## DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

LUIS P. SALAVERIA

MARY ALICE EVANS DEPUTY DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804 Web site: www.hawaii.gov/dbedt

Telephone: (808) 586-2355 Fax: (808) 586-2377

# Statement of LUIS P. SALAVERIA Director

Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism before the

#### SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

March 16, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. State Capitol, Room 211

#### In consideration of

- S.C.R. 10 APPROVING THE SALE OF THE LEASED FEE INTEREST IN 41-648 INOAOLE STREET, WAIMANALO, HAWAII;
- S.C.R. 11 APPROVING THE SALE OF THE LEASED FEE INTEREST IN 47-394 KEOHAPA PLACE, KANEOHE, HAWAII;
- S.C.R. 12 APPROVING THE SALE OF THE LEASED FEE INTEREST IN 95-029 KUAHELANI AVENUE, NO. 128, MILILANI, HAWAII; and
- S.C.R. 13 APPROVING THE SALE OF THE LEASED FEE INTEREST IN 94-946 MEHEULA PARKWAY, NO. 264, MILILANI, HAWAII.

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means.

DBEDT <u>supports</u> S.C.R. 10 through S.C.R. 13, all part of the Administration's legislative package. HHFDC is seeking legislative approval to sell the leased fee interest in these homes to their respective leasehold owners. HHFDC has met all statutory prerequisites to request approval of the sale of these parcels.

Accordingly, DBEDT respectfully requests that the Committee pass these concurrent resolutions. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written comments.



#### STATE OF HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM
HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
677 QUEEN STREET, SUITE 300
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
FAX: (808) 587-0600

IN REPLY REFER TO:

### Statement of Craig K. Hirai

Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation

Before the

#### SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

March 16, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. State Capitol, Room 211

In consideration of

## S.C.R. 10 APPROVING THE SALE OF THE LEASED FEE INTEREST IN 41-648 INOAOLE STREET, WAIMANALO, HAWAII.

The HHFDC <u>supports</u> S.C.R. 10. HHFDC is seeking legislative approval to sell the leased fee interest in this single family home to its leasehold owner.

This house was built in 1975 as part of the Hale Aupuni affordable for-sale development. Only 17 homes out of the 190 homes in the development remain in leasehold. The fair market value of the leased fee interest in 41-648 Inoaole Street as of April 10, 2015 was \$123,300.

A title search conducted by Title Guaranty of Hawaii on August 21, 2015, showed that this parcel was classified as Government land previous to August 15, 1895. HHFDC conducted a public meeting on the proposed sale on August 11, 2015, at Waimanalo School Cafeteria, Waimanalo, Hawaii, following publication of notice in the Honolulu Star-Advertiser newspaper on August 7 and 10, 2015. There was no objection to the proposed sale raised at that time.

HHFDC has also worked with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs during the interim to keep them informed of these findings and intent to sell the leased fee interest in this parcel. A copy of the draft resolution was provided to OHA on September 24, 2015.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written comments in support of this concurrent resolution.



#### SCR10 APPROVING THE SALE OF THE LEASED FEE INTEREST IN 41-648 INOAOLE STREET, WAIMANALO, HAWAII.

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

March 16, 2016 9:00 a.m. Room 211

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) offers the following **COMMENTS** on SCR10, which approves the sale of the leased fee interest in a single-family home in the Hale Aupuni affordable housing project. While the lands identified for the sale of the leased fee interest in SCR10 are "ceded" lands, the proposed sale falls within an OHA Board of Trustees (BOT) Executive Policy, which provides that OHA will not oppose such a resolution. Accordingly, **OHA does not oppose the sale of this leased fee interest.** 

SCR10 has been offered for consideration by the Legislature in accordance with Act 176, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2009, as amended. Among other things, Act 176 requires a two-thirds approval by both houses of the Legislature before any specific lands controlled by the State can be sold (including, but not limited to, "ceded" lands.)

In general, sales of "ceded" lands raise significant concerns for OHA and its beneficiaries, because the Native Hawaiian people's unrelinquished claims to "ceded" lands have yet to be resolved. In response to Act 176 (2009) and Act 169 (2011), the BOT adopted a "Ceded Lands" policy which states as follows:

OHA reaffirms its policy to protect the ceded lands corpus until the unrelinquished claims of Native Hawaiians are resolved, and OHA shall oppose the alienation of any ceded lands by the State of Hawai'i, except in the following limited situations . . . (1) OHA shall not oppose a resolution submitted to the Hawai'i State Legislature pursuant to Act 176 (2009) and Act 169 (2011) for the sale of fee simple interest of apartments, townhouses, and houses for home ownership, where . . . [2] there have been prior sales in the same development to the extent that the units have previously been substantially sold, or [3] sales of the fee simple interest were approved by the responsible state housing agency prior to the filing of the lawsuit *OHA v. Hawaii Finance and Development Corporation*, Civil No. 94-4207-11, First Circuit Court, State of Hawai'i, November 4, 1994. (emphasis added).

While SCR10 proposes the sale of "ceded" lands, consistent with the policy exceptions cited above, OHA does not oppose the proposed sale of the leased fee interest at 41-648 Inoaole Street, for the following reasons:

- As of 2015, 173 of 190 of the total units in Hale Aupuni have had the fee simple interest sold (91% sold), indicating that units "in the same development . . . have previously been substantially sold"; and
- On January 12, 1990, the Housing Finance and Development Corporation (predecessor of the current Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation) Board of Directors voted unanimously to approve the sale of the fee simple interest in Hale Aupuni. The Housing Finance and Development Corporation, as "the responsible state housing agency," approved the sale of the fee interest in Hale Aupuni prior to the filing of the *OHA v. HFDC* lawsuit on November 4, 1994.

Accordingly, OHA does not oppose the proposed sale in SCR10. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.