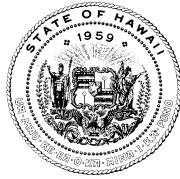


DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR  
STATE OF HAWAII

SHAN S. TSUTSUI  
LT. GOVERNOR  
STATE OF HAWAII



JOBIE M. K. MASAGATANI  
CHAIRMAN  
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.  
DEPUTY TO THE CHAIRMAN

**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**

**IN SUPPORT OF**

**HB 451, HD1 RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION ACT**

March 14, 2017

Aloha Chair Shimabukuro and members of the Committee:

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) strongly supports this bill that reduces the minimum Hawaiian blood quantum requirement of certain successors to lessees of Hawaiian home lands from one-quarter to one-thirty second. This bill is almost identical to an administration bill introduced this session.

The Department continues to receive requests from beneficiaries, particularly lessees in our older homestead communities, to reduce the blood quantum requirement for successors. As these communities age, the lessees with one-quarter Hawaiian blood are facing the possible loss of a homestead lease that has been within the family for several generations because their descendants lack the required blood quantum. This amendment will provide DHHL lessees with greater flexibility to retain homestead leases within their families.

The Department appreciates this Committee's amendments in a similar measure, SB849, SD1, which incorporated the recommendations of the Sovereign Councils of the Hawaiian Homelands Assembly Executive Council and Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs that the bill also amend section 208 of the HHCA to reduce the minimum Hawaiian blood quantum requirement of certain transferees from one-quarter to one thirty-second, while at the same time acknowledging concerns expressed by DHHL that lowering the blood quantum for transferees allows a lessee to transfer their lot to a qualified family member and then apply for another homestead lease and receive another award or purchase a lease and transfer yet another lot to a qualified family member ahead of others on the waitlist. Unfortunately, the amendment in SB849, SD1 is extremely broad and would have significant implications for lessees. Given these potential implications, DHHL continues to advocate in strong support of reducing the blood quantum requirement of certain successors to lessees of Hawaiian home lands from one-quarter to one thirty-second by amending only section 209 of the HHCA as provided for in this measure.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.



**HB451 HD1**  
**RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION ACT**  
Ke Komike no ke Kuleana Hawai'i

Malaki 14, 2017

1:15 p.m.

Lumi 'Aha Kūkā 016

---

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** HB451 HD1, which lowers the required Native Hawaiian blood quantum from one-quarter to one-thirty-second for certain relatives to be eligible to succeed to a Hawaiian Home Lands homestead lease. This would allow homestead families to maintain and invest in their residences or businesses, and ensure a reasonable level of stability for homestead family members who, due to having less than the currently required blood quantum, may otherwise face severe disruption to their housing and business circumstances upon a homestead lessees' death.

The issue of reducing the blood quantum for successorship was a recurring theme expressed by beneficiaries of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act when the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) conducted beneficiary consultation meetings on its new proposed rules package. Homestead organizations and individual beneficiaries expressed concerns that immediate family members of homestead lessees may not have the required one-quarter blood quantum to succeed to homestead leases, and face possible loss of a homestead that has been in the family for several generations. This measure will help address those concerns, and create incentives for lessees to invest in their homesteads knowing that their descendants will succeed to their leases, thereby providing valuable housing opportunities for their families.

OHA respectfully notes the concern that reducing the minimum successorship blood quantum may decrease homestead waitlist applicants' opportunities to receive homestead awards, when applicants themselves are required to be at least 50% Native Hawaiian. The longstanding need to address the homestead waitlist backlog is clear: according to the DHHL's 2014 Annual Report, the DHHL's waiting list as of June 30, 2014, reflected a combined total of 43,795 lease applications for residential, agricultural, and pastoral leases, submitted by a total of 27,341 individual applicants. However, rather than disrupt current homestead families' housing security and tenancy of lands held for generations, OHA believes that this waitlist backlog may best be addressed by meeting DHHL's development and other needs.

For the foregoing reasons, OHA urges the Committee to **PASS** HB451 HD1.

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 13, 2017 9:38 AM  
**To:** HWNTestimony  
**Cc:** lawrence@molokaicommunityfcu.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB451 on Mar 14, 2017 13:15PM

**HB451**

Submitted on: 3/13/2017

Testimony for HWN on Mar 14, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lawrence K. Lasua	Kalamaula Homestead Association	Support	No

Comments: I support in favor of lowering the blood quantum only and not the prohibition of any lessee who transfers a lease from being placed on the wait list again or from purchasing another lease.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
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**To:** HWNTestimony  
**Cc:** mkkapuniai@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB451 on Mar 14, 2017 13:15PM

**HB451**

Submitted on: 3/13/2017

Testimony for HWN on Mar 14, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Marion K A Kapuniai	Sovereign Council of Hawaiian Homelands Assembly	Support	No

Comments: I, on behalf of the SCHHA, testify to SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS. AMEND to include Section 208 of the HHCA with same verbiage for same qualified relatives as stated in Section 209. There is NO JUSTIFICATION for excluding Section 208 in this bill, whatever, especially when considering financial as well as familial objectives. AMEND to correct the effective date to July 1, 2017. Thank you!

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**Sent:** Monday, March 13, 2017 8:37 AM  
**To:** HWNTestimony  
**Cc:** mkkapuniai@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB451 on Mar 14, 2017 13:15PM

**HB451**

Submitted on: 3/13/2017

Testimony for HWN on Mar 14, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Marion K A Kapuniai	Sovereign Council of Hawaiian Homelands Assembly	Support	No

Comments: I, on behalf of the SCHHA, testify to SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS. AMEND to include Section 208 of the HHCA with same verbiage for same qualified relatives as stated in Section 209. There is NO JUSTIFICATION for excluding Section 208 in this bill, whatever, especially when considering financial as well as familial objectives. AMEND to correct the effective date to July 1, 2017. Thank you!

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BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Hawaii State Legislature  
March 14, 2017

House Bill 451 HD1  
Relating to Hawaiian Homes Commission Act

Aloha Chair Shimabukuro, Vice Chair Galuteria and Members of the Committee,

The Ka Lāhui Hawaii Political Action Committee (KPAC) supports SB849 which would lower the required blood quantum to one-thirty-second Hawaiian for certain successors to Hawaiian Home Lands Lessees. The lowering of the blood quantum for successors would help ensure that lands remain in Kanaka Maoli families for generations to come.

The lowering of blood quantum should only be used for successors who are related to Hawaiian Home Lands Lessees. With over 20,000 applicants on the list waiting to receive land awards the State Legislature should work to ensure that the needs of the 50% plus quantum lessees are addressed in a timely manner by properly funding the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. Studies have shown that Kanaka Maoli have shorter life expectancies, higher infant mortality rates and are much more likely to die from controllable diseases like diabetes than other ethnicities in Hawai'i. This is a travesty for the Kanaka Maoli people who often wait years to receive a homestead award with many dying on the waitlist.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Healani Sonoda-Pale  
Chair, KPAC

Center for Hawaiian Sovereignty Studies  
46-255 Kahuhipa St. Suite 1205  
Kane'ohe, HI 96744  
Tel/Fax (808) 247-7942  
Kenneth R. Conklin, Ph.D. Executive Director  
e-mail [Ken\\_Conklin@yahoo.com](mailto:Ken_Conklin@yahoo.com)  
Unity, Equality, Aloha for all



To: HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

For hearing Tuesday, March 14, 2017

Re: HB451,HD1 RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION ACT  
Reduces the minimum Hawaiian blood quantum requirement of certain  
successors to lessees of Hawaiian home lands from one-quarter to one  
thirty-second.

TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION

In homage to Archie Bunker, this bill should be given the name "All In The Family." Its obvious purpose is to allow a family to keep a DHHL lease in the family even after the original lessee has died, and the spouse and children have died, etc. -- so long as the successor leaseholder has at least 1/32 Hawaiian native blood and is related to the original lessee from decades ago by blood or marriage. The only way to pry the lease away from the family is if the lease expires after

the statutory period of 100 years. Indeed, we are approaching the 100th anniversary of passage of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, so in the next few years we will see leases in Papakolea (the first homestead) beginning to expire. Therefore we will probably soon see legislation automatically extending leases for an additional century, to keep them "all in the family."

There are now 27,000 racially certified 50% blood native Hawaiians who have been sitting on the waiting list for decades. Let's give them a lease instead of guaranteeing the inheritance of a lease by grandchildren, great-grandchildren, cousins, etc. whose connection with Hawaiian culture and with the 'aina may be greatly attenuated or virtually imperceptible.

The most obvious result of enacting this bill would be to permanently establish a hereditary elite caste among native Hawaiians and Native Hawaiians -- families who got a lease early in the history of DHHL would remain forever an elite group of ali'i while those who placed their names on the waiting list in later years remain consigned to the lower caste maka'ainana with no hope of moving up. People with as little as 1/32 Hawaiian native ancestry but who are blood relatives of existing lessees would have an insurmountable preference over the native Hawaiians of greater than 50% native ancestry who were the intended beneficiaries of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act but now find they have no hope of getting a lease because they belong to a family from the "wrong side of the tracts."

Many Hawaiians believe that the 50% blood quantum requirement in the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act is terribly divisive, pitting high-blood natives against low-blood Natives. It's often said that Prince Jonah Kuhio Kalaniana'ole, Territorial Representative of Hawaii who sponsored the HHCA, wanted the blood requirement to be set at 1/32, which in 1920 would have allowed virtually every ethnic Hawaiian to qualify (although I have not seen actual written evidence to support the legend that he proposed 1/32). Now that four more generations



have occurred, Kuhio's rationale would need to be updated to say the quantum should be 1/512, to ensure that everyone with a drop of the magic blood is eligible.

But here's my view. I believe that 1/2 is too high, 1/32 is too high, 1/512 is too high, and even one drop is too high. The native blood requirement for a homestead lease on public lands should be zero. During the Republic and early Territorial periods Hawaii had a homesteading law that allowed any citizen of Hawaii, regardless of race, to select a vacant piece of public land, live on that land for a period of years while putting it to good use, and thereby acquire ownership of the land in fee simple. That perfectly fine race-neutral homesteading law fell by the wayside when the well-intentioned but hopelessly racist HHCA was enacted. So now we have a huge bureaucracy costing megabucks to administer in order to ensure that only people of the favored race can establish a homestead on public land; and that they can only lease the land but are denied the most secure way for a family to build wealth -- fee-simple ownership of land. What a shame!

HB451,HD1 proposes to establish 1/32 as the blood quantum needed to inherit a homestead lease. Did you know that Michelle Obama is 1/32 Caucasian, and would therefore be eligible to inherit a lease on a Caucasian homestead? Isn't that amazing! See "How the Obama Family Will Benefit from the Caucasian Government Reorganization Act of 2040"

<http://www.angelfire.com/big09a/CaucasianGovReorgAct.html>

Please defeat this bill.

On the next page you will find a copy of a letter to editor published in the Honolulu Star-Advertiser of December 22, 2016, from a Hawaiian with 3/8 native blood.

Keep Hawaiian blood quantum rule

I am not in favor of reducing the Hawaiian blood quantum requirement to 1/32 Hawaiian for the transfer of leases to relatives. I am in favor of the current requirement of 25 percent Hawaiian.

To qualify for Hawaiian Homes land, a person needs to be at least 50 percent Hawaiian. There are 27,000 qualified applicants on the wait list. These people have waited many years to obtain a lease and may not get a lease during their lifetime because Native Hawaiians on the wait list have died while waiting.

They deserve priority before land is transferred to someone who is only 1/32 Hawaiian.

Those who are objecting to the current 25 percent transfer requirement should be extremely grateful for all the years they lived on Hawaiian Homes property.

I am three-eighths Hawaiian. My late mother, Hannah Bailey Pang, was three-fourths Hawaiian. My grandmother Hannah Kaholowaa Kamahele Bailey was pure Hawaiian.

I do not qualify for Hawaiian Homes property, but I am very concerned about those who qualify, are not given a fair chance to obtain such property, and are on the wait list of 27,000.

Bertha Pang Drayson

Wailuku, Maui

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 13, 2017 11:15 PM  
**To:** HWNTestimony  
**Cc:** kamakane73@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB451 on Mar 14, 2017 13:15PM\*

**HB451**

Submitted on: 3/13/2017

Testimony for HWN on Mar 14, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kama Hopkins	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 13, 2017 7:39 PM  
**To:** HWNTestimony  
**Cc:** molokailori@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB451 on Mar 14, 2017 13:15PM

**HB451**

Submitted on: 3/13/2017

Testimony for HWN on Mar 14, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lori Buchanan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: My Ohana and I support HB451

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 13, 2017 7:06 PM  
**To:** HWNTestimony  
**Cc:** kalamaula@live.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB451 on Mar 14, 2017 13:15PM

**HB451**

Submitted on: 3/13/2017

Testimony for HWN on Mar 14, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Stephanie Lauifi	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support bill SB849 in its original form. I know allowing for transfer of leases when alive has caused much pilikia. But adding that stipulation may cause more harm than good. (My Opinion). This lowering of the blood quantum was for a certain class of successors and will happen only upon death of the current lessee. It is my hope that we will come out with a bill in the end that helps the lessees now who will otherwise lose their homesteads upon their death. To perpetuate their legacy for their next generations to come.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 13, 2017 6:35 PM  
**To:** HWNTestimony  
**Cc:** kalamaula1@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB451 on Mar 14, 2017 13:15PM

**HB451**

Submitted on: 3/13/2017

Testimony for HWN on Mar 14, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tanya Lauifi	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support HB451 in its original form.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 13, 2017 6:32 PM  
**To:** HWNTestimony  
**Cc:** shaye4@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB451 on Mar 14, 2017 13:15PM

**HB451**

Submitted on: 3/13/2017

Testimony for HWN on Mar 14, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Shaye K Lauifi	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support HB451 in its original form.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 13, 2017 7:40 AM  
**To:** HWNTestimony  
**Cc:** jflowers7733@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB451 on Mar 14, 2017 13:15PM

**HB451**

Submitted on: 3/13/2017

Testimony for HWN on Mar 14, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jerry Wayne Flowers Jr	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha and Good Morning All, As I stated in my last testimony given, I feel that as the years go by our Hawaiian Blood Quantum is depleting. Therefore, it would leave the Hawaiians to forfeit their lease if they dont meet the quantum limits and this saddens me to see my People evicted due to Blood quantum limits. I am in full Support for this bill and would like to see my Hawaiian People benefit from it.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 9:46 PM  
**To:** HWNTestimony  
**Cc:** rossdavis777@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB451 on Mar 14, 2017 13:15PM

**HB451**

Submitted on: 3/12/2017

Testimony for HWN on Mar 14, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gene Ross K. Davis	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: Thank you for your consideration, I do support HB451 which will not only impact, but also secure Hawaiian Homeland as the center and core of rehabilitating Hawaiian Families. Mahalo

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 2:36 PM  
**To:** HWNTestimony  
**Cc:** kahili@hawaiiantel.net  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB451 on Mar 14, 2017 13:15PM\*

**HB451**

Submitted on: 3/12/2017

Testimony for HWN on Mar 14, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kahili Norman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 2:04 PM  
**To:** HWNTestimony  
**Cc:** mendezj@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB451 on Mar 14, 2017 13:15PM\*

**HB451**

Submitted on: 3/12/2017

Testimony for HWN on Mar 14, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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1/29/17

To: House Committee on Ocean Marine Resources and Hawaiian Affairs  
From: Harry Rodrigues, President, Waiohuli Undivided Interest Lessees, Maui

Aloha e,

Regarding HB451, I am submitting written testimony in support of the lowering of the current blood quantum requirement from 50% to 1/32, for direct descendants of homestead beneficiary successors.

I submit this testimony on behalf of myself, my ohana, and the Waiohuli Undivided Interest Lessees.

DHHL beneficiaries to date are required to be of at least 50% Native Hawaiian blood quantum, and may name a successor to their homestead who is of 25% blood quantum. Those 25% blood quantum recipients of a homestead lease, under the current statute, are unable to name a successor with less than 25% Native Hawaiian blood. This means that successors are unable to pass the family homestead to their less than 25% blood quantum children. This is unacceptable.

Considering the vast numbers of at least 50% blood quantum Native Hawaiian on wait lists spanning generations, or otherwise unable to secure a homestead with the Department of Hawaiian Homelands, it does not make sense to lower blood quantum requirements for entry-point beneficiaries. Instead, it is my hope that the department will continue to create opportunities for homestead ownership for these populations, statewide.

With homestead successorship currently allowing for 25% blood quantum, more families are able to get on more land, and communities are thriving on all islands. A problem is developing for these families, however, as these families are unable to pass their homesteads to their children if their children are less than 25% blood quantum. This is not what Prince Kuhio would have wanted for his people, and this is not the intention of the origins of the homestead act. I submit testimony in favor of reducing the current successorship blood quantum to 1/32, so that successors are able to pass to their direct descendants, their children, their existing homesteads. This is important for stabilization of ohana, homestead communities, and island economies. Without this kind of legislation in place, we will surely see fewer Native Hawaiians on homesteads, and greater numbers of Native Hawaiians without resources.

Please accept my testimony with respect to all stakeholders in the blood quantum conversation.

Mahalo,

Harry Rodrigues  
President, Waiohuli Undivided Interest Lessees

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 7:35 PM  
**To:** HWNTestimony  
**Cc:** cantodoreen@gmail.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB451 on Mar 14, 2017 13:15PM\*

**HB451**

Submitted on: 3/11/2017

Testimony for HWN on Mar 14, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Doreen Canto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 6:58 PM  
**To:** HWNTestimony  
**Cc:** madeline\_neely@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB451 on Mar 14, 2017 13:15PM\*

**HB451**

Submitted on: 3/11/2017

Testimony for HWN on Mar 14, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Madeline C Neely	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**Sent:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 1:13 PM  
**To:** HWNTestimony  
**Cc:** mendezj@hawaii.edu  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB451 on Mar 14, 2017 13:15PM\*

**HB451**

Submitted on: 3/11/2017

Testimony for HWN on Mar 14, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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WRITTEN TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF BILL: HB451 HD1

Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

Chair: Maile S.L. Shimabukuro

Vice Chair: Brickwood Galuteria

Members: J. Kalani English, Donna Mercado Kim, & Josh Green

IN SUPPORT OF BILL: HB451 HD1 – RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN HOMES  
COMMISSION ACT

Scheduled Hearing Date: TUESDAY, March 14, 2017 1:15pm

Place of Hearing: State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street, Honolulu, HI 96813,  
CONFERENCE ROOM #016

Aloha my name is Johnathan Opunui Kauwenaole and I am a resident raised on the island of Molokai. I am testifying in support of Measure: HB451 HD1.

As a Native Hawaiian Individual whom has a blood quantum of 50% Native Hawaiian, I would like to support this bill to ensure that future generations of Native Hawaiians who may decrease their blood quantum through interracial marriages resulting in the decline of Native Hawaiian blood quantum can still have the opportunity to succeed Native Hawaiian Homelands that was previously cared for by their Native Hawaiian Ancestors/Ohana.

I would like to ask for your support in favor of Measure: HB451 HD1. The progression of this bill will ensure Native Hawaiian Homelands to anyone who is of Native Hawaiian descent.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Johnathan Opunui Kauwenaole

P.O. Box 344

Kaunakakai, HI 96748

PH: (808) 336-1007



WRITTEN TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF BILL: HB451 HD1

Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

Chair: Maile S.L. Shimabukuro

Vice Chair: Brickwood Galuteria

Members: J. Kalani English, Donna Mercado Kim, & Josh Green

IN SUPPORT OF BILL: HB451 HD1 – RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN HOMES  
COMMISSION ACT

Scheduled Hearing Date: TUESDAY, March 14, 2017 1:15pm

Place of Hearing: State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street, Honolulu, HI 96813,  
CONFERENCE ROOM #016

Aloha my name is Edwina Lokelani Greenleaf and I am a resident born and raised on the island of Molokai. I am testifying in support of Measure: HB451 HD1.

My parents, grandparents, and great grandparents have lived on our designated Hawaiian Homestead Land for many years; as a future successor of my Ohana's Homestead I am faced with displacement due to the fact that I do not have a blood quantum of a quarter of Hawaiian blood on paper. I say on paper because my Ohana's lineage has been historically altered due to a Native Hawaiian Practice of "Hanai". My grandmothers non-biological father signed her birth certificate therefore legally decreasing my blood quantum from a fourth to 1/8.

I am therefore kindly asking for your support in favor of Measure: HB451 HD1. The survival of this bill will give me the opportunity to succeed my Ohana's Homestead and perpetuate the Hawaiian culture of Aloha Aina unto my children, their children, and their children's children.

Mahalo for your time and consideration and I sincerely thank you for all that you do for our community and our Native Hawaiian population.

Edwina Lokelani Greenleaf

P.O. Box 344

Kaunakakai, HI 96748

PH: (808) 646-0323

**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, March 10, 2017 10:09 PM  
**To:** HWNTestimony  
**Cc:** panioloron@hawaii.rr.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB451 on Mar 14, 2017 13:15PM

**HB451**

Submitted on: 3/10/2017

Testimony for HWN on Mar 14, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ronald Lee	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am in strong support of HB 451. It is important that this bill be passed for the benefit of all Hawaiians. To push a family off a Homestead after being on it for over seventy years is not only cruel, but it falls into the original plan of the United States to take back the land once there are no more Hawaiians with 50% or more. At the time of passing the 1920 Hawaiian Homes Commission Act there were fewer than forty thousand Hawaiians left and a good number of them were over 50% in blood quantum, but declining. Prince Jonah Kuhio Kalaniana'ole wanted the blood quantum to much lower, but he faced much opposition from congress. The thinking at the time were, Hawaiians were dying out and the land would eventually go back to the state leaving Hawaiians with less than 50% Hawaiian Blood with no land for them or their descendants. Throughout the next ninety plus years since 1920, Hawaiians have made a comeback and we number nearly 500,000 around the world, but to make that comeback Hawaiians married outside of the blood. The blood quantum diminished therefore we have more and more Hawaiians with less than 50% in blood quantum and even more with 25% or less. To ensure that Hawaiians given a Homestead in the past can pass it down to their children and keep it in the Ohana, especially after doing all that work on the land, it is imperative that this legislation to lower the blood quantum to 1/32 be passed and sent to the Department of Interior for rule change for all generations to come. Again, I am in support of HB451. Submitted by, Ron Lee Waianae, Hawaii

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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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 13, 2017 11:44 AM  
**To:** HWNTestimony  
**Cc:** kaipelayo@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB451 on Mar 14, 2017 13:15PM

**HB451**

Submitted on: 3/13/2017

Testimony for HWN on Mar 14, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Alvin K Pelayo	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, I fully support HB451- HD1. I am a Hawaiian Homelands Beneficiary. My family and I were blessed in being able to build a home as a lessee. I fully recognize and support that homes and land must be prioritized for those Hawaiians that are of 50% or more blood quantum. For those of us that are in homes or on land that was passed to us from our Kupuna it is a GREAT concern that my ohana will not be able to inherit the same legacy because they do not possess the 25% required quantum. We have a severe homeless situation now in our communities. We have 3 - generations in our home now. If there is no change to the 25% requirement, then when I die my ohana will have very few options on the table for living in Hawaii. Please pass this bill and open the door to opportunity for our future generations. Mahalo for your consideration. Kai Pelayo

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## HWNTestimony

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**From:** Debbie Kini <kekahili@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 13, 2017 10:30 AM  
**To:** HWNTestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony to Support HB451 HD1

Aloha,

Please accept my email testimony that I support reducing the minimum Hawaiian Blood Quantum requirement of certain successors to lessees of Hawaiian home lands from one quarter to one thirty second. Mahalo, Debbie Kini

No ka 'Aha Ho'olohe  
NOTICE OF HEARING

La/DATE: Po'alu, Malaki 14, 2017/Tuesday, March 14,  
2017  
Holo/TIME: 1:15 p.m.  
Wahi/PLACE: Lumi 'Aha Kūkā 016/ Conference Room 016  
Ke Kapikala Moku'āina/ State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

Papa Kukumana'o  
A G E N D A

[HB 451, HD1](#)  
[\(HSCR963\)](#)  
[Status &](#)  
[Testimony](#)

RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION ACT.  
Reduces the minimum Hawaiian blood quantum requirement of  
certain successors to lessees of Hawaiian home lands from one-  
quarter to one thirty-second. (HB451 HD1)

HWN, JDL