

Will Caron SB6 testimony

Aloha, my name is Will Caron with Young Progressives Demanding Action (YPDA), a community organizing group representing approximately 450 members. We support the intent of this bill, which is to try and address Hawaii's housing situation, which is rife with inequity. The willingness to allow luxury development after luxury development to proceed with little to no consideration for how they will effect our community, and the willingness to allow wealthy, "part-time" residents to continue to act as a drag on our available housing pool while houseless families continue to suffer without roofs over their heads is inhumane and unbecoming of the advanced society we purport to be.

We at YPDA support this bill as a good first step in redistributing vital housing resources away from those who do not need them, to those who have a desperate need for them. We support the proposed amendments suggested by IMUAlliance and humbly request that this joint committee look into

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DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
LT. GOVERNOR
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JOBIE M. K. MASAGATANI
CHAIRMAN
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DEPUTY TO THE CHAIRMAN

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS**

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**TESTIMONY OF JOBIE M. K. MASAGATANI, CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION
BEFORE THE JOINT COMMITTEES ON HUMAN SERVICES AND
HOUSING**

SB 6 RELATING TO HOUSING

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

January 23, 2017

Aloha Chairs Green, Espero and members of the Committee:

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) submits comments on this bill that adds new sections to Chapter 346, HRS for the purposes of building, renting, and rehabilitating housing that shall be used as housing for the homeless.

The Department supports the intent of the bill and is willing to work with the Department of Human Services on housing for native Hawaiians as defined in the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act (HHCA). However, section 4 of the bill, which proposes a new section 346-C(c) refers to the powers of the Hawaiian Homes Commission to manage or dispose of its public lands, but doesn't specify that any use of Hawaiian Home Lands must be done in accordance with the HHCA. If the Committees choose to keep this language in the bill, then the Department must request language be inserted in the bill specifying that use of Hawaiian Home Lands must be in accordance with the HHCA. Furthermore, section 346-C(d) is especially problematic because it would allow for land disposition without compliance with the HHCA. The Department cannot support a disposition of Hawaiian Home Lands that would not comply with the HHCA, so section 346-C(d) as currently drafted should either be deleted or substantially revised to require compliance with the HHCA.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony