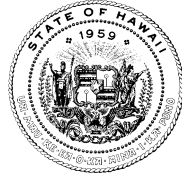


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII



JOBIE M. K. MASAGATANI
CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
LT. GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII

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 HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
OCEAN, MARINE RESOURCES, & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

IN SUPPORT OF

SB 961 RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION

March 14, 2017

Aloha Chair Ing and members of the Committee:

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands strongly supports this bill that amends the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act to reduce the number of commissioners that are residents of the city and county of Honolulu and adds a commissioner from the island of Lanai. This bill is part of the Governor's administrative package by request of our Department.

The Hawaiian Homes Commission is currently composed of nine members, and at least one member is a resident of each island on which the department has land with the exception of Lanai. The department acquired 50 acres on Lanai in 1999, and the department has awarded 29 leases on Lanai, and there are 66 applicants awaiting lease awards on Lanai. However, there is no provision for a member of the commission to be a resident of Lanai.

This proposal provides for a more direct connection for native Hawaiian beneficiaries on Lanai to the Hawaiian Homes Commission by requiring at least one member of the Commission be a resident of Lanai. This member will better understand the interests, needs, and concerns of beneficiaries as well as land management matters on Lanai.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.



SB961

RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION

House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources, & Hawaiian Affairs

March 14, 2017

10:00 AM

Room 312

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** SB961, which proposes to amend the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act (HHCA) by reducing the number of Hawaiian Homes Commissioners residing on O‘ahu from three to two, and adding a Commissioner from the island of Lāna‘i. This measure would ensure that Lāna‘i homesteaders have more meaningful representation on the Hawaiian Homes Commission, through a Lāna‘i Commissioner who may better understand the unique needs and concerns of their island.

As currently written, the HHCA appears intended to require the Hawaiian Homes Commission to include Commissioners from each of the islands on which Hawaiian home lands are located. However, in describing the specific Commission composition, the HHCA does not include a Commissioner for Lāna‘i, on which fifty acres of land were acquired by Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) in 1999. Notably, 29 leases have since been awarded for DHHL’s Lāna‘i lands, with an additional 66 lease applications currently pending. This measure would recognize the need to ensure that Lāna‘i’s homestead communities have their own representative on the Hawaiian Homes Commission, consistent with the HHCA’s apparent intent to ensure representation from each island on which Hawaiian home lands are located.

OHA supports the principle that all islands with Hawaiian home lands should have representation on the Commission. We take this opportunity, however, to also note the significant needs of O‘ahu. In its January 11, 2017, testimony to the Senate Ways and Means Committee, DHHL identified O‘ahu as having the greatest demand (i.e., the longest waiting list) for residential property (10,511 residential lease applications as of November 30, 2016). Additionally, O‘ahu has substantial homestead communities, including in Kapolei, Nānākuli, Princess Kahanu Estates, Papakōlea, Kewalo, Kalāwahine, Waimānalo, Waiāhole, Kumuhau/Kaka‘ina, Wai‘anae, Kaupuni Village, and Lualualei. It is our expectation that the Commission and DHHL will continue to address DHHL’s challenges on O‘ahu, even with this measure’s proposed reduction of the number of Commissioners representing the island.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 11, 2017 8:09 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: dkanealii02@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB961 on Mar 14, 2017 10:00AM

SB961

Submitted on: 3/11/2017

Testimony for OMH on Mar 14, 2017 10:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Diane Kanealii	Kailapa Community Association	Support	No

Comments: Lana'i needs to have representation on the Hawaiian Homes Commission, therefore we support this bill.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, March 10, 2017 9:30 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: blawaiianlvr@icloud.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB961 on Mar 14, 2017 10:00AM

SB961

Submitted on: 3/10/2017

Testimony for OMH on Mar 14, 2017 10:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
De MONT R. D. CONNER	Ho'omana Pono, LLC.	Support	Yes

Comments: We continue to STRONGLY SUPPORT this bill. We seek this committee to pass the bill as is. Mahalo.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2017 9:53 AM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: naregion9@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB961 on Mar 14, 2017 10:00AM

SB961

Submitted on: 3/13/2017

Testimony for OMH on Mar 14, 2017 10:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Derek Kimura	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am in support of SB961.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, March 12, 2017 2:03 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB961 on Mar 14, 2017 10:00AM*

SB961

Submitted on: 3/12/2017

Testimony for OMH on Mar 14, 2017 10:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 11, 2017 7:32 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: cantodoreen@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB961 on Mar 14, 2017 10:00AM

SB961

Submitted on: 3/11/2017

Testimony for OMH on Mar 14, 2017 10:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Doreen Canto	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am in strong support. Thank-you.

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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 11, 2017 1:08 PM
To: omhtestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB961 on Mar 14, 2017 10:00AM*

SB961

Submitted on: 3/11/2017

Testimony for OMH on Mar 14, 2017 10:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	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.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov