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GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

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**Testimony of  
SUZANNE D. CASE  
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on  
TRANSPORTATION**

**Wednesday, March 21, 2018  
9:45 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 423**

**In consideration of  
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 93/HOUSE RESOLUTION 77  
URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO  
ALLOW THE COUNTIES TO USE VACANT STATE LANDS AS STORAGE  
FOR ABANDONED VEHICLES**

House Concurrent Resolution 93/House Resolution 77 urges the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to allow the counties to use vacant state lands for abandoned vehicles. **The Department has concerns regarding these resolutions and offers the following comments.**

On Oahu where land is scarce, the Department may have small remnants or small lots in the urban core, however, these lots often are in the residential or business areas where the Department predicts community opposition to abandoned vehicles in the neighborhoods.

The Counties are always able to request vacant parcels be set aside for a particular purpose such as a landfill or abandoned vehicle site, which would be subject to the review and approval of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

The Department is concerned about contamination that may be caused by the abandoned vehicles. Therefore, the Counties ought to expect to be responsible for any and all contamination and remediation that may be required.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these measures.

**SUZANNE D. CASE**  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**ROBERT K. MASUDA**  
FIRST DEPUTY

**JEFFREY. T. PEARSON, P.E.**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
ENGINEERING  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

DEPARTMENT OF CUSTOMER SERVICES  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

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TESTIMONY OF SHERI KAJIWARA, DIRECTOR  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU, DEPARTMENT OF CUSTOMER SERVICES  
Wednesday, March 21, 2018, 9:45 a.m., Conference room 423

SUPPORT OF HR 77, URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL  
RESOURCES TO ALLOW THE COUNTIES TO USE VACANT LANDS AS STORAGE FOR  
ABANDONED VEHICLES.

TO: The Honorable Representative Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair  
And Members of the Transportation Committee

The City and County of Honolulu whole-heartedly supports HCR93 and HR77 in its urging of the Department of Land and Natural Resources to allow the counties use of vacant state land for the storage of abandoned vehicles. We thank the multiple introducers for their perceptiveness and understanding of the issue at hand.

An alignment of recent factors have drawn us to this point, and abandoned vehicles have become a safety and environmental concern as well as an aesthetic issue for our island state.

Abandoned vehicles is not simply a city problem. It is one that affects the entire island with many of these vehicles being removed from state highways in addition to city roadways. Affected residents are the vocal constituents of both city and state leaders.

One of the biggest issues the city's contractors face is the lack of available space to store vehicles allowing them to be removed from public roadway. The city has made several failed attempts to assist our contractors in identifying land for storage. We met with the same frustrating results.

Once stored, derelict cars are the quickest to be processed. Vehicles that require owner notification with an allowed period for claiming, must be held longer. At times it is not just the vehicle itself, but the claiming of the contents within the vehicle that a process should allow. Military owned vehicles must be held for a much lengthier time to be in compliance with the federal Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (SCRA). This requires that the servicemember be located and a signed waiver be sought before any action is taken on the vehicle. We have held such cars for well over a year. We held close to 600 vehicles at the highest point.

Identifying a parcel of land and seeking all of the state and federally required approvals and permits for it use for vehicle storage has been cumbersome and prohibitive. Thus, city and state agencies working together for the public good is the most effective and rational approach.

**HR-77**

Submitted on: 3/19/2018 11:03:05 PM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2018 9:45:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rachel L. Kailianu	Ho`omana Pono, LLC	Oppose	Yes

Comments:

In STRONG OPPOSITION, lands held by DLNR are PUBLIC LANDS. Contamination from fuel, oils, etc. could make the property unusable.

**HR-77**

Submitted on: 3/19/2018 10:32:29 AM

Testimony for TRN on 3/21/2018 9:45:00 AM

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

Comments: