

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 SENATE COMMITTEES ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS AND HOUSING**

**SB 2424 RELATING TO HOUSING FOR NATIVE HAWAIIANS**

February 13, 2018

Aloha Chairs Shimabukuro & Espero and members of the Committee:

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) submits comments on this bill that authorizes the construction and use of micro housing units on Hawaiian home lands managed by DHHL, notwithstanding zoning laws, permit provisions, and building codes and authorizes the use of the Hawaiian home loan fund and Hawaiian home general fund for assistance in purchasing or renting micro housing units for use on Hawaiian home lands managed by DHHL and leased to beneficiaries.

This measure is unnecessary because section 214 of the HHCA includes broad authority for the department to make loans from revolving funds to beneficiaries for the “repair or maintenance or purchase or erection of dwellings on any tract.” Although the HHCA doesn’t specifically reference a micro housing unit, dwellings can encompass a micro housing unit. DHHL would also caution exempting a micro housing unit from permit or building code provisions because such exemptions may have unintended consequences such as affecting the ability to secure financing and insurance for micro housing units built on Hawaiian Home Lands.

Section 1 of this bill includes a number of inaccuracies that should be deleted from this measure and references section 101 of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act (HHCA) that is still subject to consent of Congress. It is important to note that the mission of the department is to manage the Hawaiian Home Lands Trust effectively and to develop and deliver land to native Hawaiians. In calendar year 2017, a total of 185 lots were awarded or were converted from rentals to homeownership on Kauai, Maui, Oahu, and West Hawaii. An additional 295 lots (both residential and subsistence agricultural lots) on Hawaii island, Kauai, Lanai, and Oahu are complete and scheduled to be awarded in calendar year 2018. DHHL is also currently finalizing negotiations with the developer selected to build a rent with option to purchase project in Laiopua, Kona. The final number of units, still under discussion, is likely to fall between 118 and 163 units. Further, in response to requests from our beneficiaries for more opportunities to build their own homes, DHHL is expanding the number of vacant lot offerings so that

families build a home that meets their needs and budget. I have attached suggested changes to the measure if it is the desire of the committees to move this bill forward. At minimum, DHHL would recommend deleting certain language in sections 1 and 2, requiring that any micro housing unit be subject to approval by DHHL in section 2, and identify an expending agency in section 4.

The Department notes that this measure proposes funding from general revenues and appreciates any funding to support its initiatives as long as it doesn't affect the priorities identified in the Governor's Executive budget request.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.



**TESTIMONY OF  
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE, 2018**

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**ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:**

S.B. NO. 2424, RELATING TO HOUSING FOR NATIVE HAWAIIANS.

**BEFORE THE:**

SENATE COMMITTEES ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS AND ON HOUSING

**DATE:** Tuesday, February 13, 2018 **TIME:** 10:00 a.m.

**LOCATION:** State Capitol, Room 225

**TESTIFIER(S):** Russell A. Suzuki, Acting Attorney General, or  
Matthew S. Dvonch, Deputy Attorney General

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Chairs Shimabukuro and Espero and Members of the Committees:

The Department of the Attorney General offers the following comments on this bill.

This bill authorizes the construction and use of micro housing on Hawaiian home lands. County zoning codes, permitting provisions, and building codes would not apply to such micro housing units. The bill also authorizes the use of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands' (DHHL) Hawaiian home loan fund and Hawaiian home general fund to assist homesteaders in constructing micro housing units on their homesteads. Finally, the bill makes appropriations to the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC) for construction of micro housing units on Hawaiian home lands and to build the organizational capacity of native Hawaiian-controlled nonprofit housing developers.

With respect to the appropriations in sections 4 and 5 of the bill, we note that HHFDC cannot administer race-based housing programs. Under the Equal Protection clauses of article I, section 5, of the Hawaii Constitution and the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, HHFDC may not restrict its programs to members of a particular race. In addition, sections 201H-5 and 515-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, prohibit HHFDC from engaging in racial discrimination through its affordable housing programs, including the financing of housing unit construction.

In order to remedy these constitutional and statutory concerns, we suggest amending the bill to make DHHL the recipient of the appropriations in sections 4 and 5. DHHL may lawfully restrict the use of its funds to native Hawaiians and native Hawaiian-controlled entities to accomplish the purposes of this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.



**SB2424**  
**RELATING TO HOUSING FOR NATIVE HAWAIIANS**  
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Senate Committee on Housing

February 13, 2018

10:00 a.m.

Room 225

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) appreciates the opportunity to provide **COMMENTS** on SB2424, which seeks to advance housing options and opportunities for Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) beneficiaries and their families.

OHA is the constitutionally-established body responsible for protecting and promoting the rights of Native Hawaiians, and serves as the principle agency responsible for the performance, development, and coordination of programs and activities relating to Native Hawaiians; assessing the policies and practices of other agencies impacting Native Hawaiians; and conducting advocacy efforts for Native Hawaiians.<sup>1</sup> In furtherance of its constitutional mission, OHA has adopted strategic priorities of **Ho'okahua Waiwai**, which focuses on improving Native Hawaiians' economic self-sufficiency through improved home ownership and rental standards. **Between FY11 – FY16, OHA accordingly provided approximately \$28 million in support of housing and housing stability programs, including foregone rent, sponsorships, programs and services (contracts and grants), and \$3 million annually for DHHL housing development program activities.**

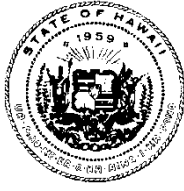
OHA is therefore appreciative of the intent behind this measure, to provide DHHL and its lessees with greater flexibility in the development of housing on DHHL lands. **OHA does note that Section 4 of this measure, beginning on page 9, line 13, does not specify an expending agency for the appropriation provided for therein.** Accordingly, based on the preamble and other provisions of the bill, OHA respectfully suggests that Section 4 be clarified to expressly name the Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation as the expending agency for the subject appropriation.

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

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<sup>1</sup> HAW. CONST. ART. XII SEC. 5; Haw. Rev. Stat. § 10-3.

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



CRAIG K. HIRAI  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**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 HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING**

February 13, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.  
State Capitol, Room 225

In consideration of  
**S.B. 2424**  
**RELATING TO HOUSING FOR NATIVE HAWAIIANS.**

The HHFDC *offers the following comments* on S.B. 2424. HHFDC believes that micro housing could expand affordable housing opportunities. However, it is our understanding that the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands is authorized to construct housing and make loans for dwelling units, including micro housing units. HHFDC also notes that we are not the appropriate agency to administer funds for native Hawaiian programs because doing so may raise Fair Housing Act concerns.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



# HAWAII APPLESEED

## CENTER FOR LAW & ECONOMIC JUSTICE

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Testimony of Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice  
**Supporting SB 2424 Establishes a revolving Small Home Loan Fund and Nonprofit Developer Capacity Program to increase development of affordable housing on Hawaiian Home Lands.**  
Senate Committees HWN and HOU  
Scheduled for Hearing on February 13, 2018, 10AM in Conference Room 255

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*Hawai'i Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice Hawai'i Appleseed is committed to a more socially just Hawai'i, where everyone has genuine opportunities to achieve economic security and fulfill their potential. We change systems that perpetuate inequality and injustice through policy development, advocacy, and coalition building.*

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Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice strongly supports passage of SB 2424 which would establish a revolving fund to increase the realistic and timely development of affordable housing on Hawaiian Home Lands. The funding would be directed at establishing up to 10,000 small homes by 2026. Hawaiian families remain overcrowded and represent the highest group represented within the homeless population

There is an overwhelming need for housing for Hawaiians with 22,000 native Hawaiians currently on a waitlist for a home on Hawaiian Home Lands while less than 8000 residential; leases have been awarded since the trust was established almost 100 years ago. SB 2424 presents an opportunity to dramatically reverse this trend with a realistic plans and design that will make an immediate and practical difference in the lives of thousands of Hawaiians without current options for appropriate housing. SB2424 gives us the unique opportunity to address both our homeless and affordable housing crises by supporting the development of affordable, tiny homes priced below \$125,000.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the 2014 American Community Survey estimated over 50% of homeowners in Hawai'i are cost-burdened (spending 30% or more of household income on housing), while over 57% of renters are cost-burdened. In contrast, the national averages respectively are approximately 45% and 52%. Hawai'i remains one of the worst states with regards to affordable housing, and there continues to be a dire need to address this.

Accessary Dwelling Units (ADUs) or tiny homes are an important tool to tackle our affordable housing crisis, offering many benefits to current Hawaiian prospective homeowners, and the community at large. ADUs have been successfully used as an affordable housing strategy in other high-cost jurisdictions. Relative to current government subsidies for affordable housing, ADUs are an extremely cost-efficient option by allowing capital investment to come from homeowners who are in the best position to know the feasibility of the additional housing rather than government subsidized developments.

We cannot wait any longer for affordable housing in Hawaii. The Hawaiian Home Lands Trust was established to provide these type of opportunities to its beneficiaries and for the well-being of all of Hawaii. We need to invest in affordable housing for native Hawaiians and non-native Hawaiians residing on Hawaiian Home Lands NOW. We urge you to **PASS SB2424**.

Aloha,  
Victor Geminiani  
Co-Executive Director



**SB-2424**

Submitted on: 2/12/2018 11:01:01 AM

Testimony for HWN on 2/13/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Carrie Pung	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support SB2424, which would establish a public-private partnership to leverage \$5 million in State funding to create a \$20 million loan fund for the development of affordable tiny homes on Hawaiian Home Lands. The tiny home fund would support the building of 10,000 tiny homes on Hawaiian Home Lands lots with existing infrastructure by 2026. In addition, the legislation would build the capacity of nonprofit developers to increase the affordable housing stock on Hawaiian Home Lands.

Housing has always been a problem for native Hawaiians who have been on a waitlist for a home on Hawaiian Home Lands. Since the Hawaiian Home Trust was established in 1920, about approximately 8,000 residential leases have been awarded while still many more families wait for their turn while living on the beaches, or in overcrowding housing, and high price rentals. SB2424 gives us the opportunity to address affordable housing and homeless crisis by supporting the development of affordable, tiny homes priced below \$125,000.

We cannot wait any longer for affordable housing in Hawaii. The Hawaiian Home Land Trust was established to provide and assist with these type of opportunities to its beneficiaries and for those Native and non-Native Hawaiians who want to live on their lands but may not be able to afford. As a Native Hawaiian and for non-native Hawaiians we need to invest in affordable housing so more people can reside on their Lands. We need to **PASS SB2424.**

**SB-2424**

Submitted on: 2/12/2018 11:01:50 AM

Testimony for HWN on 2/13/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Annie AuHoon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I STRONGLY SUPPORT SB2424, which would establish a public-private partnership to leverage \$5 million in State funding to create a \$20 million loan fund for the development of affordable tiny homes on Hawaiian Home Lands. The tiny home loan fund would support the building of 10,000 tiny homes on Hawaiian Home Lands lots with existing infrastructure by 2026. In addition, the legislation would build the capacity of nonprofit developers to increase the affordable housing stock on Hawaiian Home Lands.

According to the Department of Housing and Urban Development, 22,000 native Hawaiians are on a waitlist for a home on Hawaiian Home Lands. Since the Hawaiian Home Lands Trust was established in 1920, approximately 8,000 residential leases have been awarded while thousands of families wait for their turn residing on the beach, in overcrowding housing, and in high-priced rentals. At a time when Hawaii reports the highest homeless rate per capita of any state in the nation and 42% of all homeless persons identifying as Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, SB2424 gives us the unique opportunity to address both our homeless and affordable housing crises by supporting the development of affordable, tiny homes priced below \$125,000.

We cannot wait any longer for affordable housing in Hawaii. The Hawaiian Home Lands Trust was established to provide these type of opportunities to its beneficiaries and for the well-being of all of Hawaii. We need to invest in affordable housing for native Hawaiians and non-native Hawaiians residing on Hawaiian Home Lands NOW. We Urge you to PASS SB2424.

Respectfully Submitted,

Annie K. Au Hoon

**SB-2424**

Submitted on: 2/12/2018 11:20:27 AM

Testimony for HWN on 2/13/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sammie Pung	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support SB2424, for two simple reasons

First of all, We need to develop more affordable homes for our Hawaiian and non Hawaiians who are wanting to live on their Hawaiian Home Lands but cannot afford a home. We than can take them away from beaches, and overcrowded housing, and high pricing rentals.

Secondly, We cannot wait any longer for affordable housing in Hawaii. I believe that the tiny home fund will allow the opportunity for families that need it the most.

**SB-2424**

Submitted on: 2/12/2018 1:41:05 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/13/2018 10:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

I have been advocating for more housing opportunities for the people of Maui County for over 30 years. There are currently 10 homestead areas Paukukalo, Waiehu Kou 1, 2,3,4, Kahikinui, Waiohuli, Keokea, Undividued Interests, Villages of Leialii with a minimum lot size of 10,000 square feet each for a total of over 1000 homestead lots. An additional unit on each of their lots would allow for more housing for many more families to be accommodated.

Please pass this bill.

Mahalo,

N. Tasha Kama, 1987 Accelerated Awardee/Lessee

**SB-2424**

Submitted on: 2/12/2018 3:33:18 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/13/2018 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lahela Williams	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I **STRONGLY SUPPORT SB2424**, which would establish a public-private partnership to leverage \$5 million in State funding to create a \$20 million loan fund for the development of affordable tiny homes on Hawaiian Home Lands. The tiny home loan fund would support the building of 10,000 tiny homes on Hawaiian Home Lands lots with existing infrastructure by 2026. In addition, the legislation would build the capacity of nonprofit developers to increase the affordable housing stock on Hawaiian Home Lands.

According to the Department of Housing and Urban Development, 22,000 native Hawaiians are on a waitlist for a home on Hawaiian Home Lands. Since the Hawaiian Home Lands Trust was established in 1920, approximately 8,000 residential leases have been awarded while thousands of families wait for their turn residing on the beach, in overcrowding housing, and in high-priced rentals. At a time when Hawaii reports the highest homeless rate per capita of any state in the nation and 42% of all homeless persons identifying as Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, SB2424 gives us the unique opportunity to address both our homeless and affordable housing crises by supporting the development of affordable, tiny homes priced below \$125,000.

We cannot wait any longer for affordable housing in Hawaii. The Hawaiian Home Lands Trust was established to provide these type of opportunities to its beneficiaries and for the well-being of all of Hawaii. We need to invest in affordable housing for native Hawaiians and non-native Hawaiians residing on Hawaiian Home Lands NOW. We need you to **PASS SB2424**.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

## TESTIMONY FOR SB2424

**SB2424 – Relating to Housing for Native Hawaiians.** Establishes a revolving Small Home Loan Fund and Nonprofit Developer Capacity Program to increase development of affordable housing on Hawaiian Home Lands.

**Status: The committee(s) on HWN/HOU has scheduled a public hearing on 02-13-18 10:00AM in conference room 225.**

I **STRONGLY SUPPORT SB2424**, which would establish a public-private partnership to leverage \$5 million in State funding to create a \$20 million loan fund for the development of affordable tiny homes on Hawaiian Home Lands. The tiny home loan fund would support the building of 10,000 tiny homes on Hawaiian Home Lands lots with existing infrastructure by 2026. In addition, the legislation would build the capacity of nonprofit developers to increase the affordable housing stock on Hawaiian Home Lands.

According to the Department of Housing and Urban Development, 22,000 native Hawaiians are on a waitlist for a home on Hawaiian Home Lands. Since the Hawaiian Home Lands Trust was established in 1920, approximately 8,000 residential leases have been awarded while thousands of families wait for their turn residing on the beach, in overcrowding housing, and in high-priced rentals. At a time when Hawaii reports the highest homeless rate per capita of any state in the nation and 42% of all homeless persons identifying as Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, SB2424 gives us the unique opportunity to address both our homeless and affordable housing crises by supporting the development of affordable, tiny homes priced below \$125,000.

We cannot wait any longer for affordable housing in Hawaii. The Hawaiian Home Lands Trust was established to provide these type of opportunities to its beneficiaries and for the well-being of all of Hawaii. We need to invest in affordable housing for native Hawaiians and non-native Hawaiians residing on Hawaiian Home Lands NOW. We need you to **PASS SB2424**.

**SB-2424**

Submitted on: 2/13/2018 2:44:25 AM

Testimony for HWN on 2/13/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rachel L. Kailianu	Testifying on behalf of Ho`omana Pono, LLC	Support	Yes

Comments:



# COUNCIL FOR NATIVE HAWAIIAN ADVANCEMENT

2149 Lauwiliwili Street, Suite 200, Kapolei, Hawaii 96707

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www.hawaiiancouncil.org

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Testimony providing SUPPORT on **SB2424**  
Relating to Housing for Native Hawaiians

JOINT COMMITTEE ON HOUSING & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

Chairs Shimabukuro and Espero, Vice Chairs Galuteria and Harimoto and members of the Joint Committee, on behalf of the Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement (CNHA) and our Policy Center, I offer **strong support on SB2424** which makes an appropriation to the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC) for construction of micro housing units on Hawaiian Home Lands and to build general organizational capacity of native Hawaiian-controlled nonprofit housing developers.

Founded in 2001, CNHA is a Native Hawaiian non-profit membership organization with 132 voting members. Our mission is to enhance the well being of Hawaii through the cultural, political, community and economic development of Native Hawaiians. At our 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Native Hawaiian Convention held in October 2017, we compiled the priorities from eight policy caucuses and adopted a priority to pursue an investment by the State to support the construction of tiny homes.

SB2424 has strong support from members of both our housing and homestead policy caucuses. The measure would appropriate \$5 million to HHFDC for the construction of micro housing units on Hawaiian Home Lands. With a current wait list of over 22,000 native Hawaiians and the well-known struggle among beneficiaries in qualifying for DHHL's turnkey developments, SB2424 offers a needed solution to increase affordable inventory on Hawaiian Home Lands.

CNHA knows first hand, as a Native CDFI and a HUD Housing Counseling agency, the need for access to capital to assist beneficiaries in securing affordable housing options. We are keenly aware of the housing crises that exist on homesteads where overcrowded, multi-generational households are doing what they can to make ends meet. We see the needs of our kupuna who want to age in place surrounded by ohana. And, we understand the struggle among young couples, unable to leave home due to unaffordable rent costs. SB2424 puts an additional option on the table for families to consider micro homes as one solution to the multiple housing needs that exist in the homesteads.

Finally, SB2424 would invest in growing the organizational capacity of native Hawaiian controlled nonprofit housing developers. CNHA is a strong supporter of investing in nonprofit CDC's over relying on for profit developers to solve our affordable housing shortage.

We ask the joint committee to pass SB2424 today. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony!

Michelle Kauhane  
President & CEO



**SB-2424**

Submitted on: 2/12/2018 10:04:11 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/13/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Daniel Williams	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB2424 and it NEEDS to be passed. Too many years and lives have have gone by the wayside and it is now TIME for affordable housing opportunities!! This is A MUST.

**SB-2424**

Submitted on: 2/12/2018 10:14:54 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/13/2018 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
De MONT R. D. CONNER	Testifying on behalf of Ho'omanapono Political Action Committee (HPAC)	Support	Yes

Comments:

We STRONGLY SUPPORT this bill. Housing is the #1 issue for native Hawaiians. This bill will help. Mahalo.

**TESTIMONY FOR SB2424  
(Late Testimony)**

**Date: February 13, 2018**

**To: Senator Maile Shimabukuru, Chair Committee on Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Will Espero, Chair Committee on Housing**

**[SB2424 – Relating to Housing for Native Hawaiians.](#)**

**Establishes a revolving Small Home Loan Fund and Nonprofit Developer Capacity Program to increase development of affordable housing on Hawaiian Home Lands.**

We, the Villages of Laiopua Homestead Association **STRONGLY SUPPORT SB2424**, which would establish a public-private partnership to leverage \$5 million in State funding to create a \$20 million loan fund for the development of affordable tiny homes on Hawaiian Home Lands. The tiny home loan fund would support the building of 10,000 tiny homes on Hawaiian Home Lands lots with existing infrastructure by 2026. In addition, the legislation would build the capacity of nonprofit developers to increase the affordable housing stock on Hawaiian Home Lands.

According to the Department of Housing and Urban Development, 22,000 native Hawaiians are on a waitlist for a home on Hawaiian Home Lands. Since the Hawaiian Home Lands Trust was established in 1920, approximately 8,000 residential leases have been awarded while thousands of families wait for their turn residing on the beach, in overcrowding housing, and in high-priced rentals. At a time when Hawaii reports the highest homeless rate per capita of any state in the nation and 42% of all homeless persons identifying as Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, SB2424 gives us the unique opportunity to address both our homeless and affordable housing crises by supporting the development of affordable, tiny homes priced below \$125,000.

We cannot wait any longer for affordable housing in Hawaii. The Hawaiian Home Lands Trust was established to provide these type of opportunities to its beneficiaries and for the well-being of all of Hawaii. We need to invest in affordable housing for native Hawaiians and non-native Hawaiians residing on Hawaiian Home Lands NOW.

Craig “Bo” Kahui  
Villages of La’i’Opua  
Hawaiian Affairs Committee

CC: DHHL  
Villages of Laiopua Board



**Aloha Esteemed Senators and Representatives,**

**We are the Officers and Board Members of the Piihonua Hawaiian Homestead Community Association located in the city of Hilo on the Island of Hawaii. We, the undersigned wholeheartedly support the passage of SB24224 and HB2473 as relating to Housing for Native Hawaiians. This is a great program that will allow Kapunas to age in place with family, low mortgage starter homes, and affordable worker quarters for farming and ranching enterprises. In the latter, it is important to note that Agricultural theft has become a major headache for hardworking farmers and ranchers on the Big Island. Livestock poaching, agricultural theft, and outright vandalism has plagued many ranchers and farmers for the past decade with no solution in sight. Having a human presence on the parcel of land can greatly aid in preventing this illegal activities.**

**Unfortunately, for whatever reason, the Department of Hawaiian Homes and Office of Hawaiian Affairs have not able to fulfill their directive to place Native Hawaiians on their own lands nor establish enough low income rental units to meet the needs and demand of our Native population. Creative and innovative proposals such as SB24224 and HB2473 can help reduce the waitlist as well as increase inventory of housing and rental units, and in turn, benefit the Native Hawaiians as well as the overall population of Hawaii. For every Native Hawaiian Home dedicated to taking care of their Kapuna and make low income houses available to the thousands of DHHL waitlisters, this program will help free up otherwise occupied rental units by Native Hawaiians to the rest of the population of on all the Islands of Hawaii.**

**We need to stop and reverse the homeless, destitute, and low income population of Native Hawaiians and create a process for them to have an affordable mortgage they can live with, and allow ranchers and farmers to have a human presence of their agricultural lands to protect their animals and crops from theft and vandalism. It is way past the time that the Hawaii State Legislature come to the table to help and support native Hawaiians in regards to the Hawaiian Homes Act of 1921 and the 1959 Hawaii Admissions Act. We strongly encourage you to support the passage of SB24224 and HB2473.**

**A hui hou,**

(See page 2)





OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS OF PIHONUA HAWAIIAN HOMESTEAD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

**Doreen K. Kodani:** Doreen K. Kodani **Ronald T. Kodani:** Ronald T. Kodani  
President Vice-President

**Rona Chow:** Rona Chow **Amelia Miyasato:** Amelia Miyasato  
Secretary Treasurer

**Daylan Tioganco:** Daylan Tioganco **Daniel Rhodes:** Daniel Rhodes  
Director Director

**Cara Dudoit:** Cara Dudoit **Li An Aki:** Li An Aki  
Director Director

**Kaleo Aki:** Kaleo Aki  
Director