

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on
WATER & LAND**

**Friday, April 13, 2018
10:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 133, SENATE DRAFT 1
AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A TERM LEASE COVERING A PORTION OF
STATE SUBMERGED LANDS AT KAHALU'U, NORTH KONA, ISLAND OF HAWAI'I**

Senate Concurrent Resolution 133, Senate Draft 1 seeks to authorize the issuance of a term lease covering a portion of state submerged lands at Kahalu'u, North Kona, Island of Hawai'i. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this concurrent resolution.**

At its meeting on February 9, 2018, under agenda item D-5, the Board of Land and Natural Resources (Board) approved the direct lease of approximately 3.992 acres more or less, seaward of Tax Map Keys (3) 7-8-013:002 & 043, to the abutting landowner, The Trustees of the Estate of Bernice Pauahi Bishop (Applicant). The purpose of the lease is for cultural and historical site preservation. The Applicant requested the lease as part of their Kahalu'u Ma Kai Educational and Cultural Complex. The Complex will be constructed on the Applicant's private property landward of the lease area, will advance their mission of providing high quality educational experiences for Native Hawaiian children and families in collaboration with community stakeholders, and be the center of their educational offerings in the West Hawai'i region.

As required by Section 171-53, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), the Board may lease submerged lands "with the prior approval of the Governor and the prior authorization of the Legislature by concurrent resolution". As the Applicant is a tax exempt 501(c)(3) eleemosynary organization, the Board approved the direct lease at gratis pursuant to Section 171-43.1, HRS. The lease is necessary to allow the Applicant to have the ability to control and limit public access to the submerged land area as it is the site for two heiau. In addition to the two heiau, the Applicant has also identified a "probable burial area" that would be included in the proposed lease area.

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

The lease will be for the preservation and management of these historic archaeological sites, and no commercial activity or development shall occur in the lease area. Although public access along the shoreline area is integral to the Department's mission, so is the protection of Native Hawaiian cultural and historical resources. This instance serves as a balancing of those two key interests. In order to mitigate the impacts to shoreline access, the Applicant has proposed a "managed public access" that would allow the public to access to submerged land area that does not encroach onto the cultural and historical resource areas.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.



KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS®

Senate Committee on Water and Land

Time: 10:30am

Date: April 13, 2018

Where: State Capitol, Room 325

TESTIMONY

By Kaimana Barcarse
Kamehameha Schools

RE: SCR 133 SD1, authorizing the issuance of a term lease covering a portion of state submerged lands at Kahalu‘u, North Kona, Island of Hawai‘i.

E ka Luna Ho‘omalu Yamane, ka Hope Luna Ho‘omalu Todd, a me nā Lālā o kēia Kōmike, aloha! My name is Kaimana Barcarse and I serve as the West Hawai‘i Regional Director of Kamehameha Schools.

We are writing to **support SCR 133 SD1**, which authorizes the issuance of a term lease covering a portion of state submerged lands at Kahalu‘u, North Kona, Island of Hawai‘i. The purpose of the direct lease, as approved by the Board of Land and Natural Resources at its meeting on February 9, 2018, is to further the educational, cultural and historic site preservation efforts at Kahalu'u through the development and operation of the Kahalu'u Ma Kai Educational and Culture Complex (the "Project") on the adjacent lands.

Kamehameha Schools is committed to complying with SCR 133 SD1 and Haw. Rev. Stat. §171-43.1 and will ensure that nominal consideration is negotiated in the lease.

Kamehameha Schools' purpose for this Project is to work with community stakeholders to provide high quality, new and innovative educational experiences for Native Hawaiian children and families. The Kahalu‘u Ma Kai Educational and Cultural Complex will be the piko (*center*) of Kamehameha Schools' ‘āina- and culture-based educational offerings in West Hawaii. The restoration and interpretive management of the sacred heiau located on submerged land in the project area, comprise a critical component to these offerings.

We ask the members of this committee to vote in support of SCR 133 SD1, which will allow Kamehameha Schools to serve the families of Hawai‘i by providing quality, innovative ‘āina- and culture-based educational experiences while caring for the culturally significant sites located on submerged lands in Kahalu‘u, Hawai‘i.

Founded in 1887, Kamehameha Schools is an organization striving to advance a thriving Lāhui where all Native Hawaiians are successful, grounded in traditional values, and leading in the local and global communities. We believe that community success is individual success,

Hawaiian culture-based education leads to academic success and local leadership drives global leadership.

‘A‘ohe hana nui ke alu ‘ia. No task is too large when we all work together! Mahalo nui