

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF  
HAWAII



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

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DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

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BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
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COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
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CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
ENGINEERING  
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HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

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

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION  
KAKUHIHEWA BUILDING  
601 KAMOKILA BLVD, STE 555

**Testimony of  
SUZANNE B. CASE  
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committees on  
PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS  
and  
JUDICIARY**

**Thursday, March 22, 2018  
2:00 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229**

**In Consideration of  
SENATE CONCURENT RESOLUTION 99/SENATE RESOLUTION 58  
URGING THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF HAWAII TO  
EXERCISE ITS POWER OF EMINENT DOMAIN TO CONDEMN  
NAALEHU THEATER TO PRESERVE THE THEATER'S HISTORIC  
LEGACY**

Senate Concurrent Resolution 99/Senate Resolution 58 urge the County Council of the County of Hawaii to exercise its power of eminent domain to acquire the Naalehu Theater to preserve the Theater's historic legacy. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) offers the following comments.**

The Naalehu Theater was constructed in 1925 by the Hutchinson Sugar Company and hosted theatrical performances, live events and community events, and was later converted to a movie theater. It served the plantation community and military personnel stationed in the vicinity.

In 2005, the Naalehu Theater was nominated for listing in the Hawaii register of historic places and the National Register of Historic Places. The owner, the 300 Company, objected to listing. It is a matter of long practice that the Hawaii Historic Places Review Board does not list places in the Hawaii Register of Historic Places over the owner's objections. The federal regulations governing the National Register of Historic Places prohibit listing when the owner's objects. The decision not to list the Naalehu Theater was a procedural one and does not reflect a determination that the Theater is not historic. It is the opinion of the Department's State Historic Preservation Division staff that the Theater is clearly historic, satisfies the technical criteria for inclusion in both the Hawaii and National Registers of Historic Places, and would be listed if the property owner removed its objection.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these measures.

**SR-58**

Submitted on: 3/21/2018 1:19:59 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/22/2018 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for Oahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments: