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GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



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

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

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ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
WATER AND LAND**

**Wednesday, January 30, 2019
1:15 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 798
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND
NATURAL RESOURCES**

Senate Bill 798 proposes to appropriate funds for the digitization of records, files, and other materials of the State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) in the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department). **The Department supports this measure provided that this appropriation does not adversely impact appropriations for other priorities in the Executive Budget request.**

The State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) has approximately 3.7 million pages of documents that includes information essential to staff, consultants, planners, and project proponents is in the process of complying with the substantive requirements of Chapter 6E, Hawaii Revised Statutes. These records are cumbersome to access and use, and materially slow the process of reviewing projects. In addition, the creation of an electronic data management system is the final requirement imposed on the state of Hawaii by the National Park Service's Corrective Action Plan. Making continuing progress on the data management system is critical to completing the corrective action plan and lifting of the state historic preservation division's status as a "high risk" recipient of federal funds.

To date, SHPD has completed digitization of approximately 1.5 million pages of documents and part of its library and archive. The funds to be appropriated by Senate Bill 798 will allow SHPD to digitize the remainder of its library in

Kapolei, as well as digitize the records held in its neighbor island offices.

As digitization is completed, the digitized files are being uploaded to SHPD's document management system, where they are available on line to state historic preservation division staff. These records will be made available on line through the Hawaii Cultural Resources Management System (HICRIS), which will integrate and make accessible the state historic preservation division's various data bases, its digitized documents, and its geographic information system. The contract with the company that will develop HICRIS, has been executed and is fully funded from prior year appropriations made specifically for that purpose.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

HISTORIC HAWAII FOUNDATION

TO: Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Committee on Water and Land

FROM: Kiersten Faulkner, Executive Director
Historic Hawaii Foundation

Committee: Wednesday, January 30, 2019
1:15 p.m.
Conference Room 229

RE: SB 798, Making an Appropriation to the Department of Land and Natural Resources

On behalf of Historic Hawaii Foundation, I am writing in **support for SB 798**. The bill would appropriate funds for the State Historic Preservation Division of the Department of Land and Natural Resources for the digitization of historic preservation records through a project to digitize paper reports, maps, inventories, determinations and correspondence, and other materials.

The project is needed to make records available for both staff and public researchers. A comprehensive, digitally-based and integrated data management system will assist the department with more efficient management of its cases, provide better information and service to the public, support preservation projects, and assist the department to retain compliance with provisions of the federal historic preservation grant to the state.

Since 1974, Historic Hawai'i Foundation has been a statewide leader for historic preservation. Its members and supporters work to preserve Hawaii's unique architectural and cultural heritage and believe that historic preservation is an important element in the present and future quality of life, economic viability and environmental sustainability of the state.

Therefore, Historic Hawai'i Foundation supports SB 798.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.