

MAR 06 2020

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO CONDUCT A STUDY
TO EXAMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF AWARDING UNDIVIDED LEASE
INTERESTS IN HAWAIIAN HOME LAND TRACTS TO BENEFICIARIES WHO
HAVE NOT YET BEEN AWARDED HAWAIIAN HOMESTEAD LEASES.

1 WHEREAS, the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920, is
2 intended to enable native Hawaiians to return to their lands and
3 become self-sufficient by granting them leases for Hawaiian home
4 lands; and

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6 WHEREAS, the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act provides that
7 the beneficiaries of the Hawaii Homes Commission Act shall be
8 individuals of at least one-half Hawaiian ancestry; and

9
10 WHEREAS, approximately 12,750 beneficiary households have
11 leases for and live on Hawaiian homestead lands; and

12
13 WHEREAS, if a beneficiary dies while the beneficiary is a
14 lessee of a tract of Hawaiian homestead land, the lessee's
15 spouse, child, grandchild, brother, or sister may become the
16 successor to the interest in the lease if the relative is of at
17 least one-fourth Hawaiian ancestry; and

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19 WHEREAS, approximately 23,800 beneficiary households are on
20 the waitlist to receive homestead lease awards; and

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22 WHEREAS, if a beneficiary on the waitlist dies before being
23 awarded a lease of a tract of Hawaiian homestead land, the
24 beneficiary's application rights may be transferred to a
25 relative who is a successor designated by the applicant, but not
26 if the designee is of less than one-half Hawaiian ancestry; and

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28 WHEREAS, the goals of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act
29 have not yet been fulfilled; now, therefore,

30 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
31 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, that the



S.R. NO. 128

1 Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to conduct a study to
 2 examine the feasibility of awarding undivided lease interests in
 3 Hawaiian home land tracts to native Hawaiian beneficiaries who
 4 have not yet been awarded Hawaiian homestead leases; and
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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaiian Homes Commission
 7 and Department of Hawaiian Home Lands are requested to provide
 8 the Legislative Reference Bureau any information or other
 9 assistance requested by the Bureau for the purposes of the
 10 study; and
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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference
 13 Bureau is requested to submit a report of its findings and
 14 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
 15 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
 16 the Regular Session of 2021; and
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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 19 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the Legislative
 20 Reference Bureau, Chairperson of the Hawaiian Homes Commission,
 21 and Administrative Services Officer of the Department of
 22 Hawaiian Home Lands.
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OFFERED BY:


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