

Representative Ryan I. Yamane, Chair

Representative Chris Todd, Vice Chair

Committee On Water, Land & Hawaiian Affairs

From: Meyer Cummins, Licensed Professional Land Surveyor
Hawaii Land Surveyors Association, President

Date: Wednesday, January 29, 2020

Subject: In Favor of HB 1877 relating to Land Recordation

Honorable Representative Ryan I. Yamane, Chair, Honorable Representative Chris Todd, Vice Chair, and members of the Committee On Water, Land & Hawaiian Affairs

Thank you for allowing me to testify in favor of HB 1877.

My name is Meyer Cummins and I am a land surveyor in the State of Hawaii. I am also President of the Hawaii Land Surveyors Association which represents a majority of the licensed land surveyors in the State.

I am in favor of HB 1877 as it addresses the important issue of insufficiently mapped and described original Hawaiian land titles for lands being deregistered from the Land Court. Correct descriptions are critical to the conveyance of land title and protecting the basic land rights of the public which we serve.

HB 1877 provides for both a uniform method of mapping and of giving constructive notice that land deregistration has occurred. Correct mapping and descriptions of original Hawaiian land titles preserve the identity of Hawai'i's past and is integral to the history of Hawaii's culture, its land and its people. It is critical to the conveyance of Hawaii's lands.

The current language of the Bill contains certain discrepancies that I, and the Hawaii Land Surveyors Association, would like to see revised. Items 1 and 2 in particular, if left unchanged, will have unintended consequences for the Bureau of Conveyances. Revisions should be made as follows:

1. On Page 3, Lines 10-17, SECTION 2, re: Chapter 501-261.5 (a)(2)(b): All of (b) should be replaced with the following:

“(b) Upon satisfactory submission of the documents required pursuant to subsection (a), the assistant registrar shall refer the map and description of the parcel or parcels sought to be deregistered to the state land surveyor in the department of accounting and general services for approval after being checked as to form and mathematical correctness but not on the ground.”

As it is written in HB 1877, this section requires the assistant registrar to check the map and description as to form and mathematical correctness, not state land surveyor, a task which the assistant registrar has neither the desire nor the ability to accomplish.

2. On Page 11, Line 16, re: Chapter 502-18, the text "*and only contiguous parcels shall be shown on the same plan.*" should be inserted after the word "*plan*" on Line 16. The bureau of conveyances has requested this line, and non-contiguous lots seeking deregistration should not be allowed to be shown on the same plan. Doing so will complicate the process of checking the map and description and identifying those lots being deregistered in a certain and specific place in the Islands on said plan.
3. On Page 7, Line 9, SECTION 4, re: Chapter 502-17, 1.(a)(4), the text "*licensed professional*" should be inserted before the word "*surveyor*". Only a licensed professional surveyor is qualified to sign such a plan.
4. On Page 8, Line 10 SECTION 4, re: Chapter 502-17, 1.(a)(8)(D), the dotted title line as shown on HB 1877 should be changed to a solid line broken by two dots or short dashes, as is standard for land surveyors and cartographers in Hawaii, and required by the state land surveyor on all plans showing such a line and approved through his office.
5. On Page 9, Lines 12 and 13, SECTION 4, re: Chapter 502-17, 2. (d)(3), Lines 12 and 13 should be removed. A letter from a licensed professional surveyor, certifying that the metes and bounds description produced by him or her conforms to the accompanying map, should remain in the statute.

Mahalo nui for this opportunity to testify. Should you have any questions, I can be reached at (808)294-3051 and I will make myself available for questions.

Representative Ryan I. Yamane, Chair

Representative Chris Todd, Vice Chair

Committee On Water, Land & Hawaiian Affairs

From: Karl Nishio

Date: Wednesday, January 29, 2020

Subject: In Favor of HB 1877 relating to Land Recordation

Honorable Representative Ryan I. Yamane, Chair, Honorable Representative Chris Todd, Vice Chair, and members of the Committee On Water, Land & Hawaiian Affairs

Thank you for allowing me to testify in favor of HB 1877.

My name is Karl Nishio and I am a board member of the Hawaii Land Surveyors Association which represents a majority of the licensed land surveyors in the State.

I am in favor of HB 1877 as it addresses the important issue of insufficiently mapped and described original Hawaiian land titles for lands being deregistered from the Land Court. Correct descriptions are critical to the conveyance of land title and protecting the basic land rights of the public which we serve.

HB 1877 provides for both a uniform method of mapping and of giving constructive notice that land deregistration has occurred. Correct mapping and descriptions of original Hawaiian land titles preserve the identity of Hawai'i's past and is integral to the history of Hawaii's culture, its land and its people. It is critical to the conveyance of Hawaii's lands.

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Mahalo nui for this opportunity to testify. Should you have any questions, I can be reached at (808) 524-7100 x101 and I will make myself available for questions.

Mahalo Nui Loa,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Karl Nishio', written over a horizontal line.

Karl Nishio
Vice President/Past President
Hawaii Land Surveyors Association
knishio@knsurveying.com

HB-1877

Submitted on: 1/28/2020 10:51:35 AM

Testimony for WLH on 1/29/2020 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joanne Williamson	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

I am testifying in STRONG Support, with wording revisions.

Thank you.

Representative Ryan I. Yamane, Chair

Representative Chris Todd, Vice Chair

Committee On Water, Land & Hawaiian Affairs

From: Clayton Kaneshiro, LPLS

Date: Wednesday, January 29, 2020

Subject: In Favor of HB 1877 relating to Land Recordation

Honorable Representative Ryan I. Yamane, Chair, Honorable Representative Chris Todd, Vice Chair, and members of the Committee On Water, Land & Hawaiian Affairs

Thank you for allowing me to testify in favor of HB 1877.

My name is Clayton Kaneshiro and I am a licensed land surveyor in the State of Hawaii. I am also a member of the Hawaii Land Surveyors Association which represents a majority of the licensed land surveyors in the State.

I am in favor of HB 1877 as it addresses the important issue of insufficiently mapped and described original Hawaiian land titles for lands being deregistered from the Land Court. Correct descriptions are critical to the conveyance of land title and protecting the basic land rights of the public which we serve.

HB 1877 provides for both a uniform method of mapping and of giving constructive notice that land deregistration has occurred. Correct mapping and descriptions of original Hawaiian land titles preserve the identity of Hawai'i's past and is integral to the history of Hawaii's culture, its land and its people. It is critical to the conveyance of Hawaii's lands.

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Mahalo nui for this opportunity to testify. Should you have any questions, I can be reached at (808) 543-7839 and I will make myself available for questions.

Mahalo Nui Loa,
Clayton Kaneshiro

Representative Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
Representative Chris Todd, Vice Chair
Committee On Water, Land & Hawaiian Affairs

From: Kendall Hee

Wednesday, January 29, 2020

Subject: In Favor of HB 1877 relating to Land Recordation

Honorable Representative Ryan I. Yamane, Chair, Honorable Representative Chris Todd, Vice Chair, and members of the Committee On Water, Land & Hawaiian Affairs

Thank you for allowing me to testify in favor of HB 1877.

My name is Kendall Hee and I am a Licensed Professional Land Surveyor in the State of Hawaii, Certificate Number 5649 and a member of the Hawaii Land Surveyors Association which represents a majority of the licensed land surveyors in the State.

I am in favor of HB 1877 as it addresses the important issue of insufficiently mapped and described original Hawaiian land titles for lands being deregistered from the Land Court. Correct descriptions are critical to the conveyance of land title and protecting the basic land rights of the public which we serve.

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Mahalo nui for this opportunity to testify. Should you have any questions, I can be reached at 591-8116 x216 and I will make myself available for questions.

Me Ke Aloha Pumehana (with warm regards),

Kendall Hee

Licensed Professional Land Surveyor, Certificate Number 5649

Representative Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
Representative Chris Todd, Vice Chair
Committee On Water, Land & Hawaiian Affairs

From: Cliff Yim, LPLS
Date: Wednesday, January 29, 2020
Subject: In Favor of HB 1877 relating to Land Recordation

Honorable Representative Ryan I. Yamane, Chair, Honorable Representative Chris Todd, Vice Chair, and members of the Committee On Water, Land & Hawaiian Affairs

Thank you for allowing me to testify in favor of HB 1877.

My name is Cliff Yim and I am a land surveyor in the State of Hawaii. I am also a member of the Hawaii Land Surveyors Association which represents a majority of the licensed land surveyors in the State.

I am in favor of HB 1877 as it addresses the important issue of insufficiently mapped and described original Hawaiian land titles for lands being deregistered from the Land Court. Correct descriptions are critical to the conveyance of land title and protecting the basic land rights of the public which we serve.

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Mahalo nui for this opportunity to testify. Should you have any questions, I can be reached at (808) 445-9145 and I will make myself available for questions.

Mahalo Nui Loa,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cliff Yim', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Cliff Yim, LPLS