

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF  
HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621  
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**Testimony of  
SUZANNE D. CASE  
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on  
WATER, LAND & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Friday, February 1, 2019  
9:00 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of  
HOUSE BILL 777  
RELATING TO RECORDATION TRANSACTION FEES**

House Bill 777 proposes to amend Act 120, Session Law of 2009 (Act 120), to: 1) apply the \$5 transaction fee to all recordings performed at the Bureau of Conveyances (Bureau) to include collection on each filing in the Land Court; 2) expand the uses of this transaction fee for records management improvements; and 3) clarifying the repeal date. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) strongly supports this bill.**

Act 120 intended to provide the necessary funding to correct serious shortcomings at the Bureau identified by the Joint Legislative Investigative committee under Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 226 (2007). To date, as a result of the Act, the Bureau has significantly improved the automation and integrity of the recording process, establishing web and digital access to parts of the Bureau's database and records, and created the portal and process for the electronic recording of documents. Future key improvement projects include completing digitizing, protecting and accessibility to the Bureau's records and maps, and establishing a critical disaster recovery plan that can continue the Bureau's operation in times of an emergency.

This bill proposes to expand the source and authorized use of these transaction funds to address many of the evolving issues that the Bureau faces: improving digitization; improving workflow processes for both daily and historical records certification; and preserving physical records.

Additionally, this bill proposes to clarify repeal on the earlier to occur of a designated sunset date or the date a transaction fee is established in the Bureau's administrative rules.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

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

**ROBERT K. MASUDA**  
FIRST DEPUTY

**M. KALEO MANUEL**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
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KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

## todd1 - Harrison

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**From:** 123ContactForm <noreply@123formbuilder.io>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 31, 2019 7:26 AM  
**To:** klhpoliticalactioncommittee@gmail.com; Rep. Ryan Yamane; Rep. Chris Todd; Rep. Sharon Har; Rep. Nicole Lowen; Rep. David A. Tarnas; Rep. Tina Wildberger; Rep. Cynthia Thielen; WLHtestimony  
**Subject:** Testimony in SUPPORT of HB600

Dear House Water, Land and  
Hawaiian Affairs Committee-Chair  
Yamane yes

Dear House Water, Land and  
Hawaiian Affairs Committee-Vice  
Chair Todd yes

Dear House Water, Land and  
Hawaiian Affairs Committee-  
Representative Har yes

Dear House Water, Land and  
Hawaiian Affairs Committee-  
Representative Lowen yes

Dear House Water, Land and  
Hawaiian Affairs Committee-  
Representative Tarnas yes

Dear House Water, Land and  
Hawaiian Affairs Committee-  
Representative Wildberger yes

Dear House Water, Land and  
Hawaiian Affairs Committee-  
Representative Thielen yes

My name is-First Michael

My name is-Last Hutchinson Sr

I reside at Kapolei, Oahu

I am-non-Kanaka Maoli aka non-  
Native Hawaiian yes

I am-Registered to vote in Hawaii. yes

I SUPPORT HOUSE BILL 600:-  
Kuleana lands were granted to  
Kanaka Maoli tenant farmers  
between 1850 and 1855 and  
include gathering, access, and  
agricultural rights as well as the  
right to build a dwelling. yes

I SUPPORT HOUSE BILL 600:-Only 8,205 Kanaka Maoli received Kuleana lands that account for less than 1 percent of Hawaiian Kingdom lands. Many of these awards were adversely possessed by corporations like sugar and pineapple plantations but a precious few are still in the same families today keeping their ancestral tie to their lands.

yes

I SUPPORT HOUSE BILL 600:- Having paid fees and taxes for these lands for over 170 years many of these families don't have the economic means of hiring attorneys for costly court cases to defend their lands.

yes

I SUPPORT HOUSE BILL 600:- Mandatory mediation and consolidation of quiet title actions helps to reduce costs for Kanaka Maoli Kuleana land owners.

yes

I SUPPORT HOUSE BILL 600:-On page 1 line 6 after Kuleana Lands please add "due to their special status under Kingdom law and the state constitution"

yes

I SUPPORT HOUSE BILL 600:-Please delete everything after "mediation" on line 3 on page 5 OR delete lines 3 to 6 on page 5 altogether.

yes

I SUPPORT HOUSE BILL 600:-Please amend this bill to only allow those with at least 50% interests in the Kuleana lands to take quiet title action.

yes

Additional Comments: Keep Kuleana safe

Form Host <http://www.123formbuilder.com/form-3601262/support-kuleana-land-owners-hb-600>

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