

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 Senate Committees on  
HUMAN SERVICES  
and  
HOUSING  
and  
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

**Monday, February 11, 2019  
2:55 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 016**

**In consideration of  
SENATE BILL 483  
RELATING TO HOMELESSNESS**

Senate Bill 483 proposes to authorize the use of private lands for 'Ohana Zones and extends the sunset dates for homeless emergency medical programs. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this bill and offers the following comment.**

The Department supports the use of private land for 'Ohana zones, but suggests that the language within the bill clarify the type(s) of partnership that must exist between the State and the owner of the land, and whether or not this partnership must be formalized.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

**SUZANNE D. CASE**  
CHAIRPERSON  
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COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**ROBERT K. MASUDA**  
FIRST DEPUTY

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

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

**SB-483**

Submitted on: 2/9/2019 9:21:54 AM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2019 2:55:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
andy levin	Testifying for county of hawaii, Mayor's office	Support	No

Comments:

The County of Hawaii fully supports SB 483, which broadens the scope of the Ohana Zones Pilot Program by allowing for partnerships on private land. This amendment to Act 209 is critical and will provide an opportunity to expedite the construction of appropriate housing for individuals experiencing homelessness.

The Sacred Hearts and Hale Iki emergency housing projects on the Island of Hawaii are a direct result of a government and private partnership that resulted in the addition of 30 temporary housing solutions for the survivors of the Kilauea eruption.

This added flexibility should be a positive way of implementing the pilot project, and maximizing its potential for success.

Hawaii County supports SB 483.

**SB-483**

Submitted on: 2/7/2019 7:26:13 PM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2019 2:55:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
David Mulinix	Testifying for Our Revolution Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:



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HOPE Help Line: 808-935-3050

Hearing: SB 483 in support  
Date: February 11, 2019  
Location: State Capitol, Room 016

Aloha Committee Chair, Vice-Chair, and Committee Members:

I am submitting testimony on behalf of HOPE Services Hawai'i, a non-profit affiliate organization of the Roman Catholic Church in the State of Hawaii, working towards ending homelessness in our community. We strongly support SB 483, which authorizes the use of private lands for the ohana zones pilot program.

The current restriction that only allows ohana zone projects to be located on State and County lands limits communities like Puna, Ka'u or Waimea of Hawai'i County, the creativity to develop programs in rural areas throughout our island. In the wake of the lava disruption, we were able to partner with over 50+ businesses to develop Sacred Heart Shelter, an emergency shelter program that consists of twenty (20) micro-units at 120 sq. ft each, a common pavilion, restrooms, showers, and storage space in less than 30 days. This project could remain in this rural community and converted as a Ohana Zone project following its intended use for households displaced by the lava. But with the current limitation where Ohana Zones projects must be on State or County lands, this is currently not an option.

The challenge to State and County properties in Hawai'i County is infrastructure! Gaining access to basic utilities like water, sewer/septic systems and electricity requires large financial investment. However, allowing private lands such as the property where Sacred Heart Shelter site is located is on Catholic Church land, and opportunities like this will allow for such creativity the Ohana Zones project was intended. Faith communities own land. It will take public-private partnerships working together to end homelessness. We've heard this message from the State.... so let's continue to practice this with Ohana Zones too! Therefore, I strongly urge your support of SB 483.

Mahalo nui for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Brandee Menino,  
Chief Executive Officer

JOIN OUR COMMUNITY



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Chief Executive Officer  
Brandee Menino

**SB-483**

Submitted on: 2/7/2019 6:57:41 AM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2019 2:55:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mike Golojuch	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-483**

Submitted on: 2/7/2019 9:17:20 AM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2019 2:55:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Louise Storm	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

Have the liability and financial issues, including oversight been fully explored?

**SB-483**

Submitted on: 2/7/2019 9:42:20 AM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2019 2:55:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
David Deges	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-483**

Submitted on: 2/7/2019 9:30:58 PM

Testimony for HMS on 2/11/2019 2:55:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sherry Pollack	Individual	Support	No

Comments: