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

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SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
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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
WAYS AND MEANS**

**Thursday, February 28, 2019
10:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211**

**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.**

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 liftin 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 help 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.

SB-798

Submitted on: 2/26/2019 6:52:56 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/28/2019 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i	Support	No

Comments:



February 26, 2019

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Support of SB 798 Making an Appropriation to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Appropriates funds for the digitization of records, files, and other materials of the state historic preservation division to be expended by the department of land and natural resources.)

WAM Hrg: Thursday, February 28, 2019, 10:30 a.m., in Conf. Rm. 211

The Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii (LURF) is a private, non-profit research and trade association whose members include major Hawaii landowners, developers, resort operators, and major utility companies. LURF's mission is to advocate for reasonable, rational and equitable land use planning, legislation and regulations that encourage well-planned economic growth and development, while safeguarding Hawaii's significant natural and cultural resources, and public health and safety.

LURF appreciates the opportunity to express its **support for SB 798**, which appropriates funds for the digitization of records, files, and other materials of the State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) to be expended by the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

SHPD plays an important role in reviewing, commenting and approving plans relating to critical infrastructure and utilities, needed housing, and resort development. According to written testimony submitted by DLNR, SHPD has approximately 3.7 million pages of documents that include 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. Currently, these records are cumbersome to access and use, and delays the process of reviewing projects. Digitizing these records will facilitate a more efficient and timely SHPD review,

DLNR also explained that 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, which has resulted in the designation of SHPD as a "high risk" recipient of federal funds. 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 in its neighbor island offices – and hopefully the removal of the "high risk" designation.

According to DLNR, as digitization is completed, the digitized files will be uploaded to SHPD's document management system, where they become available on line to the SHPD staff. These records will be made available on line through the Hawaii Cultural Resources Management System, which will integrate and make accessible SHPD's various data bases, its digitized documents, and its geographic information system.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments in support of this measure.