

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 10 2021

RE: S.B. No. 717

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-First State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2021  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred  
S.B. No. 717 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION  
ACT,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to require the  
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to digitize its applicant,  
beneficiary, and lessee records and create a usable digital  
database by July 1, 2022, to increase departmental efficiency and  
reduce abuse of lease awards by lessees.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure  
from four individuals. Your Committee received testimony in  
opposition of this measure from one individual. Your Committee  
received comments on this measure from the Department of Hawaiian  
Home Lands.

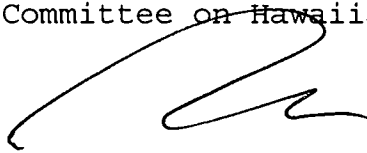
Your Committee finds that in June 2013, the Department of  
Hawaiian Home Lands began implementing an electronic document  
imaging system that converted applicant and lessee records to  
digital media to easily store, access, track, and share documents  
from a secure and central location with the intent of improving  
accessibility and inquiry wait times and allow for the  
preservation of original documents. Your Committee also finds  
that the current waitlist for leases under the Department of  
Hawaiian Home Lands has over twenty thousand applicants and



applicants often wait years before receiving a lease offer. Your Committee further finds that digitizing the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands' applicant, beneficiary, and lessee records will increase the efficiency and transparency of this process.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Hawaiian Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 717 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Hawaiian Affairs,



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MAILE S.L. SHIMABUKURO, Chair



