

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

3227

Honolulu, Hawaii

**MAR 17 2022**

RE: S.C.R. No. 15  
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-First State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2022  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred  
S.C.R. No. 15 entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE DEPARTMENT  
OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS IMPLEMENT PROGRAMS TO SUPPORT VERY LOW  
INCOME NATIVE HAWAIIAN BENEFICIARIES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to request that the  
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands implement programs that would  
support very low income beneficiaries and establish various  
prospective plans that could be used.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure  
from the Hawaii State Aha Moku, Environmental Caucus of the  
Democratic Party of Hawai'i, M.A.H.A. Homestead Association, and  
four individuals. Your Committee received comments on this  
measure from the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and Kūpuna for  
the Mo'opuna.

Your Committee finds that the waitlist for residential and  
farming homesteads reached 28,500 native Hawaiian adults in 2019  
and remains around 28,000 adults today, despite pledges of money  
and programs to rectify the situation. Furthermore, Hawaii has  
one of the worst homeless rates in the country, with some of the  
highest average mortgage rates. Considering that the public land  
trust is for the benefit of the native Hawaiian people, this



measure requests the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to implement programs to support these very low income native Hawaiian beneficiaries.

Your Committee notes that some counties currently allow living in temporary structures with wheels on vacant lands.

Your Committee has amended this measure by clarifying the potential solutions requested to be considered by the Department of Hawaiian Homelands to be:

- (1) Awarding vacant land leases which could be used to live in county approved temporary structures with an accompanying Department of Health approved wastewater treatment system;
- (2) Duplicating the Puuhonua O Waianae model on every island possibly through awarding general leases to homestead groups; and
- (3) Requesting the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to provide rental assistance, mortgage assistance, and down payment assistance subject to eligibility criterion and sufficient funds.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Hawaiian Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 15, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 15, S.D. 1.

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



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MAILE S.L. SHIMABUKURO, Chair



The Senate  
Thirty-First Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Hawaiian Affairs**  
**HWN**

*MJ*

Bill / Resolution No.*** <b>SCR 15/529</b>	Committee Referral: <b>HWN</b>	Date: <b>3/10/22</b>
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The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.  
If so, then the previous decision was to: \_\_\_\_\_

The Recommendation is:

Pass, unamended 2312     Pass, with amendments 2311     Hold 2310     Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L. (C)	X			
KEOHOKALOLE, Jarrett (VC)	X			
ACASIO, Laura	X			
IHARA, Jr., Les	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt		X		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

Recommendation:  Adopted     Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature: 

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\*Only one measure per Record of Votes