

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII

JOSH GREEN
LT. GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII



WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION

TYLER I. GOMES
DEPUTY TO THE CHAIRMAN

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS**

P. O. BOX 1879
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

TESTIMONY OF WILLIAM J. AILA, JR, CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION
BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM
HEARING ON FEBRUARY 11, 2022 AT 9:30AM VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

IN SUPPORT OF

**HB 2136, RELATING TO INTERIM ADMINISTRATIVE RULES OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS**

February 11, 2022

Aloha Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Wildberger and members of the Committee:

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) strongly supports this bill allowing DHHL after beneficiary consultation and upon approval by the Hawaiian Homes Commission to issue interim rules that shall be exempt from the public notice, public hearing, and gubernatorial approval requirements of chapter 91, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) and stipulating that the interim rules shall be effective for not more than eighteen months. This bill was approved by the Hawaiian Homes Commission and included in the Governor's administrative package by request of our Department.

DHHL is currently authorized to adopt rules in accordance with chapter 91, HRS, which can be a lengthy process given that the Department conducts beneficiary consultation pursuant to its administrative rules prior to initiating the rule making process. This new section, which is modeled after 103D-202, HRS, will enable the Department to move quickly in issuing interim rules after beneficiary consultation and upon approval by the Hawaiian Homes Commission on important programs and services. The eighteen-month limitation on the life of the interim rules will ensure that the Department has adequate time to adopt permanent rules through formal rulemaking procedures.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.