

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR

GLORIA CHANG
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE**

P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND
MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

WRITTEN ONLY
TESTIMONY BY CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 2567, S.D. 1, H.D. 1

**April 4, 2022
1:30 p.m.
Room 308 and Videoconference**

RELATING TO NATIVE HAWAIIAN BENEFICIARIES

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) offers comments on this bill.

Senate Bill No. 2567, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, appropriates an unspecified amount of general funds for FY 23 for the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to create an interactive digital database software program of its applicant, beneficiary, and lessee records.

B&F notes that, with respect to the general fund appropriation in this bill, the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act requires that states receiving Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) II funds and Governor's Emergency Education Relief II funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

Further, the federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires that states receiving ARP ESSER funds must maintain state support for:

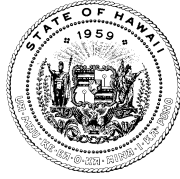
- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

The U.S. Department of Education has issued rules governing how these maintenance of effort (MOE) requirements are to be administered. B&F will be working with the money committees of the Legislature to ensure that the State of Hawai'i complies with these ESSER MOE requirements.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

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 FINANCE
HEARING ON APRIL 4, 2022 AT 1:30PM VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

SB 2567, SD1, HD1, RELATING TO NATIVE HAWAIIAN BENEFICIARIES

April 4, 2022

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita, and members of the Committee:

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) submits comments on this bill that requires DHHL to digitize its applicant, beneficiary, and lessee records by creating an interactive digital database software program to be completed and available for use no later than 7/1/2023.

DHHL began implementing an electronic document imaging system in June 2013 that converted applicant and lessee records to digital media. Staff training began in 2019, and the neighbor island offices have access to DHHL's electronic record system. This significantly improved accessibility for DHHL's neighbor island offices. The primary purpose of the document management system is to easily store, access, track, and share documents from a secure and central location. The goal is to provide better customer service and create a more efficient use of staff time. It will also allow for the preservation of the original documents. This existing system can always be improved if additional resources are available as long as it doesn't affect the priorities identified in the Governor's Executive Budget request.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.

SB-2567-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2022 12:10:53 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/4/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jamieson Brennan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Sylvia Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Jamieson Brennan, and I fully support SB2567 HD1 RELATING TO NATIVE HAWAIIAN BENEFICIARIES. As a resident of Hawai'i who was born and raised here, I have friends and family members who live in Hawaiian home lands and who are currently on the beneficiary list. The process to obtain any information without this system makes it difficult for workers but also requires the people they service a wait time that could be avoided. The database will give the department of Hawaiian home lands (DHHL) a solid foundation for serving beneficiaries and managing their extensive land trust. If enacted, finding information that once required weeks of work would be cut in half, easily accessible, and in one place.

It is vital for DHHL to maintain its commitment to serving beneficiaries and create a culture that honors the organization's founder's vision by providing consistency, communication, and ways to access information. Excellent customer service benefits both beneficiaries and employees/DHHL. It will support staff professional growth, resulting in exceptional customer service and excellent performance while combining Hawaiian values and understandings. Overall, I strongly support the future installation of the database for DHHL and highly suggest that this problem be investigated and improved.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.