

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



DENISE ISERI-MATSUBARA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM
HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
677 QUEEN STREET, SUITE 300
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
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IN REPLY REFER TO:

Statement of
DENISE ISERI-MATSUBARA
Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation
Before the

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
AND
SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**

March 02, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 211

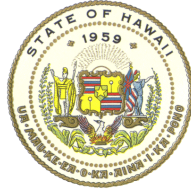
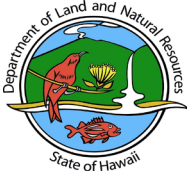
In consideration of
S.B. 2583 SD1
RELATING TO PUBLIC LANDS.

HHFDC supports S.B. 2583 SD1, which exempts non-ceded lands set aside by the Governor to the Hawaii Housing and Finance Development Corporation from classification as public lands subject to Department of Land and Natural Resources management.

[Chapter 171](#) of the Hawaii Revised Statutes already exempts lands that HHFDC holds title to from the definition of public lands. If this definition was broadened to include non-ceded lands set aside to HHFDC, then the agency would be able to treat all non-ceded lands under its control in a consistent manner. This action would streamline the approval process and facilitate the delivery of affordable housing on state-owned lands.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committees on
WAYS AND MEANS
and
JUDICIARY**

**Wednesday, March 2, 2022
9:30 AM**

State Capitol, Conference Room 221 and Via Videoconference

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 2583, SENATE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO PUBLIC LANDS**

Senate Bill 2583, Senate Draft 1 proposes to clarify that non-ceded lands set aside to the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC) by the Governor are exempt from the definition of "public lands". **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) has no objection to the measure as amended and offers the following comments.**

The bill proposes to exempt non-ceded lands set aside to HHFDC from the definition of public lands under Section 171-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), and require legislative approval of any sale of said non-ceded lands under Section 171-64.7, HRS. Lands to which the HHFDC in its corporate capacity holds title are already exempt under Section 171-2, HRS. As a result, if Senate Bill 2583, Senate Draft 1, were to become law, HHFDC would no longer need to secure the approval of the Board of Land and Natural Resources for land dispositions or projects on non-ceded lands set aside to HHFDC under Section 171-11, HRS.

Senate Bill 2583, Senate Draft 1, provides any non-ceded lands no longer needed for housing, finance, and development purposes shall be returned to the public trust administered by the agency from which they were obtained. The Department appreciates the amendments made to the bill by the Senate Committees on Housing and Water and Land in Senate Draft 1. The Department supports the bill as amended in Senate Draft 1.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ROBERT K. MASUDA
FIRST DEPUTY

M. KALEO MANUEL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS