

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



DENISE ISERI-MATSUBARA  
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**STATE OF HAWAII**

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM  
HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
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IN REPLY REFER TO:

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

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

April 6, 2022 at 1:30 p.m.  
State Capitol, Room 308

In consideration of  
**S.B. 2583 SD2**  
**RELATING TO PUBLIC LANDS.**

HHFDC **supports** S.B. 2583 SD2, 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 were 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.

SB 2583 SD 2 TESTIMONY

To: House Committee on Finance  
Hearing on April 6, 2022 at 1:30 p.m.

From: John Kawamoto

Position: Support

Housing prices in Hawaii have steadily increased for decades while wages have stagnated. Year after year, housing has become less and less affordable for more and more people. The supply of housing has continually fallen behind demand for it, and today, Hawaii faces a shortage of 50,000 homes.

Existing efforts to develop housing have proven to be insufficient. An effective strategy demands a multi-faceted solution with new ideas, and this bill presents one of them. This bill streamlines the approval process to deliver affordable housing on state-owned lands and will help to improve the lives of Hawaii's families.