

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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

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**Testimony of  
SUZANNE D. CASE  
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committee on  
JUDICIARY**

**Wednesday, February 15, 2022  
9:30 AM  
State Capitol, Via Videoconference**

**In consideration of  
SENATE BILL 2755  
RELATING TO THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

Senate Bill 2755 proposes to require the Board of Land and Natural Resources (Board) to approve all revoked, limited, condemned, removed, or shortened public land leases or revocable permits. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) offers the following comments on this measure.**

This measure proposes to require Board approval for any decision relating to the revocation, limitation, condemnation, removal, or modification of land leases and revocable permits. The Department notes that such actions regarding a lease are already subject to Board approval in an open, public meeting. For revocable permits (RP), many of the actions contemplated by this measure already go before the Board in most cases. As an example, any significant modifications to terms and conditions or area of an existing RP are usually accomplished via the cancellation of the existing RP and the issuance of a new RP, which also requires approval from the Board.

Moreover, since RPs are limited month-to-month tenancies, it would be advisable to preserve the Board's authority to delegate approval of certain actions to the Chairperson. An example would be when the holder of an RP requests cancellation of the RP. In many cases the request is due to financial hardship. If cancellation must be delayed until approval by the Board instead of the Chairperson, then the holder may incur additional rent charges. Due to internal review deadlines and public notice requirements in order to place the request on the Board meeting agenda, it would likely take over one month from the date of the request to cancel the permit to obtaining Board approval.

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  
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KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS