

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 SENATE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
HEARING ON FEBRUARY 3, 2022 AT 1:01PM VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

SB 3247 RELATING TO HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

February 3, 2022

Aloha Chair Shimabukuro, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and members of the Committee:

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) submits comments on this bill that requires DHHL to build apartments to address the housing needs of native Hawaiians on the waitlist. DHHL appreciates the motivation behind this bill, but the DHHL Beneficiaries Study Applicant Report, 2020 that can be accessed here: <https://dhhl.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/DHHL-Applicant-Report-FINAL-Revised-210426.pdf> notes that less than 7% of applicants indicated a unit less than a home or lot as their first choice reflected as follows:

Residential Applicants' Housing Preferences, 2020

	1st Choice	Pct.
Turn-Key (Lot with single-family house on it)	12,496	53.9%
Lot with water, electricity and sewer, but no house	5,146	22.2%
Single-family house to rent with option to buy	2,070	8.9%
Don't know/Refused	1,925	8.3%
Apartment suited for senior citizens	628	2.7%
An affordable rental unit and retain my place on the waiting list	496	2.1%
Condo or Townhouse Rental unit with option to buy	197	0.8%
Townhouse in a duplex or four-plex	135	0.6%
Condominium apartment (Multi-family building)	106	0.5%
Total	23,199	100.0%

In light of the preference of residential applicants for a single-family house or lot, this bill would not accomplish the result desired to satisfy the housing needs of native Hawaiians currently on the waitlist.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.

February 3, 2022
Senate Committee On Hawaiian Affairs
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair
Senator Jarrett Keohokolole, Vice Chair

Testimony in Opposition of SB-3247

Aloha Chair Shimabukuro, Vice Chair Keohokolole, and members of the Committee,

I'm Homelani Schaedel, a beneficiary residing in Malu'ohai, a homestead leader in Kapolei, and an advocate for the Hawaiian Home Lands Trust.

Speaking to the purpose of this bill, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) addresses its' "housing requirements" for applicants on the waitlist to this Committee and the Committee on Budget and Finance **faithfully, every year.**

In my testimony on February 09, 2021 I included the information below:

**WHAT TYPE OF HOME
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands
Beneficiaries Study – Applicant Report
December 2020**

Applicants Survey – 1st Choice	2020	Percent
Turn-Key (Lot with Single Family House)	12,496	53.9
Lot with water, sewer, electricity (No House)	5,146	22.2
Single Family House to Rent w/Option to Buy	2,070	8.9
Don't know/Refused	1,925	8.3
Apartment suited for Senior Citizens	628	2.7
Affordable Rental Unit/Retain place on Waitlist	496	2.1
Condo/Townhouse Rental w/Option to Buy	197	0.8
Townhouse in a duplex or four-plex	135	0.6
Condo Apartment/Multi-family building	106	0.5
TOTAL	23,199	100

As you can see, Waitlist applicants' choice for "apartments" is at the bottom of the list.

Our beneficiaries wait longer than they should, they deserve what they need and want, not what this bill thinks will satisfy or resolve our housing problem.

In all good conscious, I cannot support this bill.

Mahalo for allowing me space to share my mana'o.