

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 HOUSING
HEARING ON MARCH 17, 2022 AT 9:00AM VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

SB 879, SD1, RELATING TO COUNTIES

March 17, 2022

Aloha Chair Nakamura, Vice Chair Hashimoto, and members of the Committee:

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) strongly supports this bill that gives counties jurisdiction over the infrastructure of DHHL housing developments in their boundaries under specified conditions and requires counties, under specific conditions, to commence maintenance on that certain infrastructure within sixty days. A similar measure was approved by the Hawaiian Homes Commission and included in the Governor's administrative package by request of our department. DHHL supports the House version of this bill, HB2134, HD1, that was previously heard and passed out of this Committee.

In addition to developing new homesteads, DHHL also has other critical, albeit lesser known responsibilities. Like a county, DHHL maintains and repairs existing infrastructure (e.g. clearing of flood channels and drainage, roads and facilities maintenance, sewer emergencies and repairs, etc.) Increasingly, this responsibility is demanding a greater share of DHHL's financial and staff resources to address.

In certain counties, the county has either not accepted portions of newer infrastructure, or has stopped performing needed repair. One example is sewer systems. Act 227, SLH 2014, clarified and confirmed that operating and maintenance of sewer systems is a county function. However, DHHL continues to maintain the sewer systems on Hawaiian home lands in the interim until Act 227 can be fully implemented in subdivisions completed after the mid-1990's. In addition, until roadways are turned over to the Counties for maintenance, DHHL continues to be responsible for major pavement repairs, maintenance of street trees, sidewalks, street lighting, signage and striping. Recently, various communities have requested traffic calming and speed abatement improvements, such as speed bumps, electronic signs, flashing beacons and crosswalk improvements.

In DHHL's sufficient sums budget request, the following Administrative and Operating Costs for Repair and Maintenance of Infrastructure on Hawaiian Home Lands financed through State General Funds are provided for the Legislature's consideration. DHHL is open to discussing and collaborating with the applicable County for repair and maintenance work that can be more efficiently and cost effectively implemented. In this manner, DHHL can concentrate its efforts and funds available on lot development and housing its beneficiaries. Below is DHHL's Sufficient Sums budget request for FY23.

ISLAND	AREA or SUBDIVISION	MAINTENANCE	FY 2023
Hawaii	Kawaihae	Water System Operation & Maint.	120,000
Hawaii	Laiopua Villages	Brush Clearing and Fire Breaks	50,000
Hawaii	Puukapu	Water System Operation & Maint	255,000
Kauai	Anahola	Water System Operation, Maint, Emerg	75,000
Kauai	Hanapepe	Fencing/Gate Install/Repair	
Kauai	PMKK and Anahola	Maintenance	75,000
Lanai	Lanai City	Maintenance	75,000
Maui	Kula	Maintenance	200,000
Maui	Lealii	Leialii Parkway Maintenance	85,000
Maui	Waiehu Kou	Detention Basins and Ditches	125,000
Maui	Waiehu Kou	Sewage Pump Station	80,000
Maui	Islandwide	Fencing/Gate Install/Repair	
Lanai	Lanai	Ground Maintenance	
Oahu	East Kapolei II	Detention Basins (2)	30,000
Oahu	Kapolei	Maluohai, Kaupea, Kanehili Maint	75,000
Oahu	Nanakuli	Princess Kahanu Road Repairs	30,000
Oahu	Oahu	Sewage Spill Response and Repair	150,000
Oahu	Oahu	Street Light Replacement	375,000
Oahu	Oahu	Scattered Location R&M	1,200,000
State	Statewide	Tree Maintenance/Control	500,000
Oahu	Waimanalo	Drainage Channel and Tree Trimming	38,000
Oahu	Waimanalo	Detention Basin	30,000
State	Statewide	Ground Maintenance	500,000
State	Statewide	Sign Replacement	255,000
		TOTAL	4,323,000

Also in DHHL's sufficient sums budget request, the following Administrative and Operating Costs for Repair and Maintenance of Infrastructure financed through State General Obligation Bonds are provided for consideration by the Legislature. Similarly, DHHL is open to discussing and collaborating with both the applicable County and State

agency for remediation, repair, maintenance and improvements of various infrastructure systems which can be more efficiently and cost effectively implemented. On the following page is DHHL's Sufficient Sums budget request for FY23, with emphasis on construction and remediation of existing improvements.

AREA or SUBDIVISION	PROJECT COMPONENTS	FY 2023
Hilo	Keaukaha Sewer Imp. – Masterplan/Cesspool	1,000,000
Ka'u	Ka'u Water System, Phase 2	1,000,000
Puukapu	Roadway Improvements	2,000,000
Ka'u	Ka'u Water System, Phase 3	1,000,000
Hilo	Keaukaha Road Imp. – Health & Safety	1,500,000
Puukapu	Puukapu Non-Potable Water System	500,000
Kawaihae	Kawaihae Water: Production, Storage & Trans.	1,000,000
Anahola	Anahola Dam & Reservoir Improvements	500,000
Kahikinui	Kahikinui Roadways	1,000,000
Keokea	Keokea Farm Lots Drainage System Imp.	500,000
Keokea-Waiohuli	Wastewater alternatives and feasibility study	1,000,000
Kalamaula	Kalamaula Water & Drainage System Imp.	1,000,000
Kalamaula & Kapaakea	Sea Level Rise Planning	250,000
Kalamaula/Kapaakea/ One Alii	Cesspool conversion	2,000,000
Papakolea	Papakolea Sewer Improvements Phase 2	15,000,000
Papakolea	Sewer Improvements – CM Services	2,000,000
Waimanalo	Waimanalo Bell Street Drainage Improvements	1,000,000
Waimanalo	Waimanalo Dirt Drainage Channel Imp, Phase 1	3,000,000
Waianae	Waianae Sewer Improvements	3,400,000
Nanakuli	Nanakuli Sewer Improvements	3,000,000
Waimanalo	Cesspool conversion	2,000,000
Waimanalo	Waimanalo Sewer Improvements	3,000,000
Nanakuli	Rehabilitation of School Seawall	1,000,000
	TOTAL	47,650,000

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.

BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
630 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET
HONOLULU, HI 96843
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March 17, 2022

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Manager and Chief Engineer

ELLEN E. KITAMURA, P.E.
Deputy Manager and Chief Engineer

The Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura, Chair
and Members
Committee on Housing
House of Representatives
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 423
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nakamura and Members:

Subject: Senate Bill 879, SD1: Relating to Counties

The Honolulu Board of Water Supply (BWS) submits the following comments on Senate Bill (SB) 879, Senate Draft (SD) 1, which requires the counties to maintain infrastructure for any housing development for the Department of Hawaiian Homes lands within a specified time and under certain conditions.

The BWS already maintains waterlines for DHHL subdivisions when water infrastructure is built to BWS standards and dedicated to BWS for maintenance. Main breaks are repaired immediately to reduce water loss and disruptions of water service.

The BWS is a semi-autonomous City department that is responsible for Oahu's critically important municipal (i.e., City-owned) drinking water supply systems island-wide. It is governed by a 7-member Board that is appointed by the Mayor and affirmed by the City Council. It was established to be financially self-sustaining depending primarily on revenue from water rates and charges, and not dependent on tax revenue. The single-focused Board has the authority to conduct long-range planning, approve the operating and capital improvement project (CIP) budgets, set policies for the department and to adopt water rates and charges without the City Council's approval.

The BWS is working well as a municipal water utility, providing safe, dependable, and affordable water to our community.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.

Very truly yours,

ERNEST Y. W. LAU, P.E.
Manager and Chief Engineer



Environmental Caucus of The Democratic Party of Hawai'i

To: The Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura, Chair
The Honorable Troy N. Hashimoto, Vice Chair
Committee on Housing

Re: **SB 879 SD 1 RELATING TO COUNTIES**

Hearing: Thursday, March 17, 2022, 9:00 a.m., Conference Rm. 423 & via
videoconference

Position: Strong Support

Aloha, Chair Nakamura, Vice Chair Hashimoto, and Members of the Committee on Housing:

The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i strongly supports SB 879 SD 1. This bill would give counties jurisdiction over the infrastructure of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands housing developments in their boundaries under specific conditions. This bill would require counties, under specific conditions, to commence maintenance on that certain infrastructure within sixty days.

We also recognize that one of the most serious barriers to distribution of house lots under the Hawaiian Homelands program has been the lack of suitable infrastructure to serve those properties – water, sewer, roads, and electricity primarily. This bill attempts to address this barrier by requiring the Counties to ensure that such infrastructure is properly maintained.

Infrastructure is long overdue and badly needed for the Hawaiian community on Hawaiian Home lands and it would be highly beneficial that the counties assist in its maintenance. Please pass this measure.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

Melodie Adaja

Alan Burdick

Co-Chairs,
Environmental Caucus of the
Democratic Party of Hawai'i
Email: legislativepriorities@gmail.com