

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII
*Ke Kia'āina o ka Moku'āina 'o
Hawaii*

SYLVIA J. LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII
*Ka Hope Kia'āina o ka Moku'āina
'o Hawaii*



KALI WATSON
CHAIRMAN, HHC
Ka Luna Ho'okele

KATIE L. DUCATT
DEPUTY TO THE CHAIRMAN
Ka Hope Luna Ho'okele

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS
Ka 'Oihana 'Āina Ho'opulapula Hawaii'i

P. O. BOX 1879
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

TESTIMONY OF KALI WATSON, CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION
BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
HEARING ON FEBRUARY 9, 2024 AT 2:00PM IN CR 325

HB 2420, RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

February 9, 2024

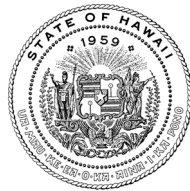
Aloha Chair Shimabukuro, Vice Chair Fevella, and members of the Committee:

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) strongly supports this bill, which would give practical effect to the intent of the Legislature that funds appropriated pursuant to Act 279, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022, be available until June 30, 2025.

The Hawaii State Department of the Attorney General opined that Act 279 authorization is only until June 30, 2024, given certain constitutional provisions that limit biennial appropriations to three years. Thus, as Act 279 currently stands, funds not encumbered by June 30, 2024, would lapse. HB 2420 provides clarity that should any funds lapse, an amount would be reappropriated to the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, in order to align with the apparent legislative intent that DHHL be provided three full years to encumber the funds appropriated under Act 279.

This bill was approved by the Hawaiian Homes Commission and included in the Governor's administrative package by the request of the Department.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.



JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR

SABRINA NASIR
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
Ka 'Oihana Mālama Mo'ohelu a Kālā
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT

WRITTEN ONLY
TESTIMONY BY LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
ON
HOUSE BILL NO. 2420

February 9, 2024
2:00 p.m.
Room 325 and Videoconference

RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) supports this measure.

House Bill (H.B.) No. 2420: 1) sets a lapse date of June 30, 2024, for unexpended or unencumbered general funds authorized by Act 279, SLH 2022 (Act 279); and 2) appropriates an unspecified sum of general funds for FY 25 to continue the purposes of Act 279.

B&F supports H.B. No. 2420 that changes the extended lapse date of June 30, 2025, in Act 279 to June 30, 2024, to align the general fund appropriation in the Act with the constitutional time limit on appropriations set by Section 11 of Article VII of the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

TAX FOUNDATION OF HAWAII

126 Queen Street, Suite 305

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Tel. 536-4587

SUBJECT: MISCELLANEOUS, Technical Correction to \$600 Million 2022 DHHL Appropriation

BILL NUMBER: SB 3109, HB 2420

INTRODUCED BY: SB by KOUCHI; HB by SAIKI (Governor's Package)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: Gives practical effect to the intent of the Legislature that funds appropriated in Act 279, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2022, be available for expenditure until June 30, 2025.S

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: Amends the appropriation of Act 279, SLH 2022, to conform its lapsing provision by 1 year, to conform to constitutional limitations. Appropriates moneys to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands for fiscal year 2024-2025 to give practical effect to the legislative intent behind Act 279.

SYNOPSIS: Makes technical changes to Act 279, SLH 2022, to conform with the original intent that the \$600 million appropriated to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands not lapse until June 30, 2025.

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 29, 2024.

STAFF COMMENTS: This is an Administration measure sponsored by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and designated HHL-06 (24).

The Foundation recognizes this bill as a technical fix to conform to the original intent of the bill without running afoul of limitations in the Hawaii Constitution.

Digested: 1/30/2024

HB-2420

Submitted on: 2/7/2024 4:42:05 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/9/2024 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Leimomi Khan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Fully support. This is in the best interest of the State and the Dept of Hawaiian Home Lands.