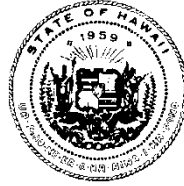


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR



HAKIM OUANSAFI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BARBARA E. ARASHIRO
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY
1002 NORTH SCHOOL STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 17907
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO:

Statement of
Hakim Ouansafi, Executive Director
Hawaii Public Housing Authority

Before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING
&
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Thursday, February 1, 2024
1:00 PM – Room 225, Hawaii State Capitol

In consideration of
SB 2021
RELATING TO IMPORTANT HOUSING LANDS

Honorable Chair Chang, Honorable Chair Inouye, and members of the Senate Committee on Housing and the Senate Committee on Water and Land, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Senate Bill (SB) 2021, relating to important housing lands.

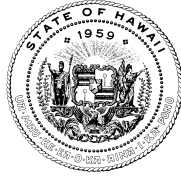
The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) **supports** SB 2021, which requires the Hawaii Public Housing Authority to conduct a study identifying certain state-owned lands located within a one-half mile radius of any rail mass transit station, including lands owned by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and excluding lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, that are most suitable for constructing at least one hundred thousand housing units.

Please know that the HPHA is happy to assist and build upon the work that has been accomplished by other state and county entities because we believe that there is value in this study and its potential recommendations.

The HPHA appreciates the opportunity to provide the Committees with the HPHA's testimony. We thank you very much for your dedicated support.

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

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



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 Hawai'i

P. O. BOX 1879
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

**TESTIMONY OF KALI WATSON, CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND
HEARING ON FEBRUARY 1, 2024 AT 1:00PM IN CR 225**

SB 2021, RELATING TO IMPORTANT HOUSING LANDS

February 1, 2024

Aloha Chairs Chang and Inouye, Vice Chairs Hashimoto and Elefante, and Members of the Committees:

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) submits comments on this bill which would 1) require the Hawaii Public Housing Authority to conduct a study identifying certain state-owned lands located within a one-half mile radius of any rail mass transit station, including lands owned by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and excluding lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands that are most suitable for constructing at least one hundred thousand housing units and 2) appropriates funds to the Hawaii Public Housing Authority to conduct the study, or contract services to conduct the study.

The DHHL appreciates the intent of this bill and we agree that the exclusion of lands under the jurisdiction of the DHHL as noted in SB 2021 is appropriate.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

1010 Richards Street, Rm. 118 • Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813
Ph. (808) 586-8121 (V) • Fax (808) 586-8129 • (808) 586-8162 TTY

February 1, 2024

LATE

TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON HOUSING, AND WATER AND LAND

Senate Bill 2021 – Relating to Important Housing Lands

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) offers comments on Senate Bill 2021 – Relating to Important Housing Lands.

This bill would require the Hawaii Public Housing Authority to conduct a study identifying certain state owned lands suitable for constructing at least 100,000 housing units.

The housing crisis is magnified for people with disabilities. People with disabilities are twice as likely to live below the poverty level. Without action to address the affordable housing shortage, more people with disabilities are at risk of losing their independence or becoming homeless or institutionalized. This bill would assist people with disabilities who are facing housing insecurity.

In addition to addressing the affordable housing shortage, legislation should address the quantity of supportive housing units that are accessible to people with mobility and communication disabilities. The Americans with Disabilities Act Standards for Accessible Design (ADA Standards) specifies the minimum percentage of accessible housing units in public facilities. The ADA Standards only requires five percent of units to be accessible for mobility disabilities and two percent of units to be accessible for communication disabilities. The Fair Housing Act (FHA) design and construction requirements specifies the minimum number of adaptable housing units in public and private buildings containing four or more units. The FHA requires all dwelling units to be adaptable for mobility disabilities in buildings with an elevator, but only requires ground floor units to be adaptable for mobility disabilities in buildings without an elevator. The FHA does not require units to be adaptable for communication disabilities.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2021 Disability Characteristics for the State of Hawaii, 19.1 percent of Hawaii's residents that are sixty five years and older have mobility difficulty, 12.6 percent have hearing difficulty, and 4.7 percent have vision difficulty. The following adjustments that exceed minimum accessibility and adaptability requirements would provide Hawaii residents with disabilities, especially kupuna with disabilities, the opportunity to live independently and give more residents without disabilities an option to continue to live in their home as they age in place:

- In public facilities with residential dwelling units, at least twenty percent, but no fewer than one unit, of the total number of residential dwelling units shall provide mobility features that comply with applicable technical requirements in the ADA Standards.

- In public facilities with residential dwelling units, at least thirteen percent, but no fewer than one unit, of the total number of residential dwelling units shall provide communication features that comply with applicable technical requirements in the ADA Standards.
- In multi-story buildings with four or more residential dwelling units, an elevator shall connect each story and all dwelling units shall comply with the FHA design and construction requirements.

Investing in accessible, affordable supportive housing would ensure that more residential units would be available for individuals with disabilities and families.

Thank you for considering our comments.

Respectfully submitted,



KIRBY L. SHAW
Executive Director

SB-2021

Submitted on: 1/29/2024 4:40:15 PM

Testimony for HOU on 2/1/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Regina Gregory	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

100,000 is far too many; TOD causing congestion

January 30, 2024

Senator Stanley Chang, Chair Senate Housing Committee

Senator Troy Hashimoto, Vice-Chair, Senate Housing Committee

Senator Lorraine Inouye, Chair Senate Water and Land Committee

Senator Brandon Elefante, Vice-chair Senate Water and Land Committee

Re: SB 2021 Relating to Important Housing Lands HPHA; OHA; Study; Affordable Housing; State-Owned lands; Mass Transit; Expenditure Ceiling; Appropriation

Dear Senators Chang, Hashimoto, Inouye, Elefante and Members of the Senate Housing, Water and Land Committees:

I am Gail Breakey, resident of Waipio Gentry and long time advocate for children and their families. **I am testifying in strong support of SB 2021**

SB 2021 requires the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority to conduct a study identifying certain state-owned lands located within a one-half mile radius of any rail mass transit station, including lands owned by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and excluding lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, that are most suitable for constructing at least one hundred thousand housing units. Appropriates funds to the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority to conduct the study, or contract services to conduct the study.

This study will be necessary to identify lands available for affordable housing located near public transit, thus ensuring that Hawaii residents who purchase affordable housing have access to transportation to needed services for their families.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this needed legislation.

Sincerely,

Gail Breakey, RN, MPH

