



SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
Ke Ke'ena O Ka Hope Kia'āina

32nd Legislature, State of Hawaii
Senate Committee on Judiciary
April 4, 2024

Testimony on
H.B. 2481 - RELATING TO TIME SHARE COMMISSIONERS OF DEEDS

Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **support of H.B. 2481** which repeals the time share commissioners of deeds in Chapter 503B, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

The time share commissioners of deeds was enacted in 2013 to increase efficiency and convenience for foreign buyers to purchase Hawai'i timeshare properties and boost Hawai'i's tourism industry. The law authorizes the Lieutenant Governor to appoint commissioners in the United States, its territories and possessions, and in any foreign country and international waters, to administer oaths and take acknowledgments and proofs of a deed, assignment of lease, mortgage, contract, power of attorney, or other instruments used in connection with time share interests, for use or recordation in Hawai'i.

My staff was unable to locate any record of previously appointed commissioners of deeds or administrative rules to enact Chapter 503B, HRS. Additionally, Act 54, Session Laws of Hawaii 2020, updated laws regarding notaries public to conform to the Revised Uniform Law on Notarial Acts (2018), the Hawaii Uniform Electronic Transactions Act, other state notary laws, and current notary practices, which I believe appropriately addresses the ability to purchase Hawai'i timeshare properties. However, if affected parties assert that they will utilize the time share commissioners of deeds, my office will implement the program.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of H.B. 2481.