

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA

DIVISION OF STATE PARKS
P.O. BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of
DAWN N.S. CHANG
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on
JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Thursday, February 27, 2025
2:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1348, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO PUBLIC LANDS**

House Bill 1348, House Draft 1 proposes to authorize the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) to lease public lands for recreation-residence use by public lottery and restrict participation in the public lottery to residents of the county in which the leased land is located. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports this measure and provides the following comments.**

The historic recreation residence community within Koke'e-Waimea Canyon State Parks on the island of Kaua'i has been a cherished resource for local families for over a century. The mountain community is modeled on similar communities established on US Forest Service lands in wilderness areas on the mainland, which continues today as a thriving recreational program.

There are approximately 100 recreation residence (cabin) leases in Koke'e-Waimea Canyon State Parks on Kaua'i, and they are unique in Hawai'i – allowing no permanent residence, but instead intended for occasional use not to exceed 180 days of use per year. They were envisioned as a means of allowing families to gather and commune with nature, escape the summer heat, and keep forest roads and amenities open and accessible.

Due to a combination of enabling legislation and past BLNR approvals establishing rent amounts, there presently exists an inequity in annual rents charged for these mountain cabins. The majority (75%) were leased via direct negotiation with existing leaseholders, at appraised values, under Act 223 (2007). Appraised rents for this largest set of cabins ranged from \$5,000 to \$9,500 annually. Sixteen unencumbered cabins were auctioned in 2009, resulting in higher annual rents, up to \$18,000 annually. The most recent auction of just 7 cabins, held in 2024, resulted in winning bids ranging from \$15,500 to \$41,000 yearly, for cabins in severely neglected condition. This amounts to rents ranging

DAWN N.S. CHANG
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT

RYAN K.P. KANAKA'OLE
FIRST DEPUTY

CIARA W.K. KAHAHANE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES
ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

from three to ten times their appraised values, and effectively priced them well out of the reach of affordability for most local families. This also resulted in a stark inequity in pricing for access to similar state-owned recreational amenities.

This proposed bill seeks to (1) reward lessees who have been quality stewards of these unique park resources by allowing for current lessees in good standing to be granted new leases, (2) level the playing field in terms of affordability (by setting all rents at appraised value), and (3) allow a fair process for acquiring available cabins when they become available, by offering them via lottery rather than an auction.

While the Department supports SB 1517, it is also proposing the following amendments to SB 1517, Sections 2 and 4, to better align with the objectives sought under this measure.

The Department proposes that under Section 2, on page 1, line 5, replacing “a” with the “two” and add the letter “s” to the end of “definition.” Moreover, following the definition of “good standing,” include a definition for “recreation residence.” These amendments clarify that HRS §171-1 will be amended to include two new definitions and that a “recreation residence” is for occasional and not permanent occupancy to prevent confusion over which leases are subject to HRS §171-44. The proposed amendments read as follows:

SECTION 2. Section 171-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding [~~a~~] two new definitions to be appropriately inserted and to read as follows:

““Good standing” means the status of a lessee being in full compliance with the lessee’s obligations under the lease.”

““Recreation residence” means a part-time residence for occasional, recreational use and not for continuous occupancy by the lessee or lessee’s family, friends, and guests.”

The Department also proposes that under Section 4, pages 3 and 5, lines 10 and 1, respectively, replace “may” with “shall”; on page 3, line 10, omit “by direct negotiation or”; on page 3, line 18, replace “extend” with “renew”; on page 4, line 1, omit “extensions of a” and include the word “renewed” after “lease”; on page 4, line 6, replace “extend” with “renew”; and on page 5, line 1, replace “may” with “shall.” These amendments ensure that leases under HRS §171-44 must be issued only by public lottery to solidify the affordable and fair process of issuing leases for recreation-residence use under this section, that lessees in good standing may renew and not extend their leases, and that participation in the public lottery must be limited to residents of the same county in which the land to be leased is located. The proposed amendments read as follows:

SECTION 4. Section 171-44, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

“§171-44 Lease for recreation-residence use. [{] (a) [}] Notwithstanding any limitations to the contrary, the board of land and natural resources [~~may~~] shall lease, [~~by direct negotiation or~~] by public lottery and without recourse to public auction, lands within a state park or forest reserve and other lands set aside under executive orders, for recreation— residence use for a period not to exceed twenty years on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the board[~~;~~]; provided that:

- (1) A lessee determined to be in good standing by the board at the expiration of the lessee's lease may directly negotiate with the board to [~~extend~~] renew the lease for an additional term not to exceed twenty years;
- (2) Any [~~extensions of a~~] lease renewed shall be based on the fair market value of the leased land; and
- (3) A lessee shall notify the board in writing no less than sixty days prior to the termination of the lease if the lessee intends to [~~extend~~] renew the lease.

[{] (b) [{] The [{]board[{]of land and natural resources shall enforce all provisions of recreation-residence use lease agreements and shall establish a schedule of penalties and fines for any breach of the provisions of a recreation-residential use lease agreement unless penalties and fines are specified in the lease agreement.

(c) Recreation-residence use leases offered by public lottery shall:

- (1) Be offered at fair market value, to be determined by appraisal pursuant to section 171-17; and
- (2) Be limited to one person per recreation-residence; provided that if two or more lessees intend to jointly reside in the same recreation-residence, only one lessee may enter the public lottery.

(d) The board [~~may~~] shall limit participation in the public lottery of recreation-residence use leases to residents of the same county in which the land to be leased is located; provided that limiting participation in the public lottery to residents of the county will be for the benefit of the residents of the county; ensure premises leased will be properly maintained by the lessee; and preserve the environmental, cultural, and scenic values of the leased premises. If the number of county residents participating in the public lottery is fewer than the number of leases available, the board shall open the public lottery to all residents of the State, followed by nonresidents.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.



CHIPPER WICHMAN, KLA PRESIDENT
HĀ'ENA, KAUA'I

February 27 2025

Subject: Testimony in Support of HB 1348 HD1 RELATING TO PUBLIC LANDS

House JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS Committee

Representative David A. Tarnas, Chair

Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

Aloha Chair Tarnas and Vice Chair Poepoe, and members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs,

I am writing in strong support of HB 1348 HD1 and the amendments to HD1 which are being proposed by State Parks. This bill is critical and will finally make it a fair and equitable process for our community to acquire leases for the recreational residence cabins in Kokee and Waimea Canyon State Parks on the island of Kaua'i. The amendments being proposed by State Parks are also very important as they clarify when the Board of Land and Natural Resources should use the lottery and when they should use direct negotiation. We do not want future leaders in the DLNR to have any confusion over the process this bill is proposing.

I am the President of the Kōke'e Leaseholder Association and for the past five years we have been working closely with State Parks leadership and staff to come up with a system that is fair and equitable for both existing leaseholders and well as for the residents who don't yet have a lease but would like to secure a lease on a cabin up at Kōke'e.

HB 1348, and the proposed amendments, reflects a common vision that both our leaseholder community and State Parks supports. One of the most important changes being made to HRS 171-44 is that it will allow State Parks to award new leases via a lottery instead of an auction. In 2024, State Parks, with the strong support and assistance of KLA, held an auction for 7 dilapidated cabins and the results of that auction proved once and for all that the majority of our local residents will never have a

fair chance to get a lease if we continue to use an auction to lease out the cabins. Some of these run-down properties went for annual lease rents of \$30,000 to \$40,000!!!

This bill proposes to restrict participation in the lottery to the residents of the county where the recreational residences exist. This is only fair and again this is consistent with the system that the Territorial government set up – that is that the Kōke'e camp lots (e.g. cabins) would be a resource for the people of Kaua'i and Ni'ihau.

Very importantly, this bill also provides strong incentive for existing and future leaseholders to make the capital investments needed to maintain the integrity of these historic properties. By allowing only lessees in “good standing” to “directly negotiate with the board to extend the lease for an additional term not to exceed twenty years”. This is consistent with the U.S. Forest Service model which is what the Hawaii system was modeled after when it was set up in 1918.

An added benefit of this language is that by allowing only lessees in “good standing” to be able to renew their leases this bill will provide a VERY strong motivation to lessees to abide by all of the terms of their lease. This language helps retain the good stewards of this historic community and eliminate the bad apples that refuse to follow the rules that we all have agreed to.

While there is much more that I can say, I believe you can tell from what I have put in my testimony how important this legislation is for our community. I strongly encourage you to support HB 1348 and adopt the amendments being proposed by State Parks and help make the future management of this unique area a much more effective and fair and equitable process.

Me ke aloha a ka mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chipper Wichman", with a long, sweeping flourish at the end.

Chipper Wichman, President
Kōke'e Leaseholder Association

Joanne Acoba
4571 Maile Road
Waimea, Kauai, Hawaii 96796

February 27, 2025

Subject: Testimony in Support of HB 1348 HD1 RELATING TO PUBLIC LANDS.

TO: House JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS Committee

Representative David A. Tarnas, Chair
Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

Aloha Chair Tarnas and Vice Chair Poepoe, and members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs,

My name is Joanne (Tanaka) Acoba, I was born and raised in Makaweli, Kauai, now residing in Waimea. I am expressing strong support for HB 1348 HD1 and the amendments to HD1 proposed by State Parks. This legislation is essential to ensure a fair and equitable process for our community to obtain leases for recreational residence cabins in Kōke'e and Waimea Canyon State Parks on Kaua'i. The State Parks' proposed amendments are particularly important as they provide clear guidelines on when the Board of Land and Natural Resources should use a lottery system versus direct negotiation. These clarifications are crucial to prevent any ambiguity for future DLNR leaders regarding the implementation of this bill.

Historical and Cultural Importance

The cabins at Kōke'e and Waimea Canyon are not just structures; they are a vital part of Kaua'i's cultural and historical heritage. Established as recreational retreats in the early 20th century, these cabins have served generations of families, offering respite from the coastal heat while fostering stewardship of the upland environment. Many of these cabins are over 50 years old and are recognized as contributing structures within a historic district. Preserving access to these cabins ensures that this legacy continues to benefit both current and future generations.

Challenges with the Current Lease Process

The existing lease system has often been criticized for its lack of affordability, accessibility and fairness. The auction-based model disproportionately favors those with financial means, sidelining local families who have maintained these cabins for decades. Moreover, the process does not adequately account for the cultural and historic significance of these properties or the community's deep ties to them.

Benefits of HB 1348

HB 1348 proposes reforms that would address these inequities by introducing a public lottery system for lease acquisition. This approach would:

1. Promote Equity: Ensure that all members of the Kaua'i & Ni'ihau communities have an equal opportunity to secure leases, regardless of financial status.

2. Preserve Cultural Heritage: Encourage local families with long-standing ties to Kōke'e to continue their stewardship of these historic cabins; allowing current leaseholders with credible and responsible stewards of their cabins be allowed to have first opportunity to renew
3. Foster Community Connection: Strengthen the bond between residents and these cherished public lands, ensuring their sustainable use and preservation for future generations.

Environmental Stewardship

The residents of Kōke'e cabins have historically played a crucial role in maintaining the surrounding environment, including combating invasive species and preserving native flora and fauna. By making leases more accessible to local families, HB 1348 supports continued environmental stewardship that benefits all park visitors.

In conclusion, Kōke'e and Waimea Canyon State Parks are treasures that belong to all of us. HB1348 represents a critical step toward ensuring that access to these parks—and their historic recreational cabins—is fair, equitable, and aligned with our shared values of cultural preservation and environmental sustainability.

I respectfully urge you to pass HB1348 to protect this unique aspect of Kaua'i's heritage while fostering equity in access to public lands.

Mahalo nui loa for your time and consideration,

Sincerely,
Joanne Acoba
Kaua'i native, Waimea High School Teacher (retired)
Cell: (808)652-2074
Email: jojotanaka4@gmail.com

Frank O. Hay
kokee@okauai.com

25. February 2025

The Honorable Members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs
Representative David A. Tarnas, Chair
Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, Oahu, Hawaii 96813

BY EMAIL ONLY

MEETING IN HONOLULU on February 27, 2025

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF THE PROPOSED HOUSE BILL 1348, Relating to
Public Lands, As Amended

Aloha,

I have been a resident of Hawaii for more than sixty years, and a leaseholder at Kōke'e since 1975. I attended the first ever auction of our leases in 1985, where average lease rents increased by more than ten times. Fifty-one out of one hundred and eleven cabins changed hands in that bitter and disputed auction – the first in our now more than one hundred-year-old community.

I was among the dozen leaseholders helping State Parks staff conduct the most recent auction, in April 2024. We were all greatly surprised that it “resulted in winning bids ranging from \$15,500 to \$ 41,000 yearly, for cabins in severely neglected condition” and “ranging from three to ten times their appraised values, and effectively priced them well out of the reach of affordability for most local families.”¹

This bill authorizes the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) to negotiate with existing leaseholders in good standing and in compliance with their lease. It would also authorize a public lottery for leases of abandoned [or “orphan”] recreational-residence cabins. This is certainly the most fair and equitable way forward. It has historical precedent, as a lottery was conducted in 1951 for the “Water Tank Lots” within the Kōke'e State Park.

I respectfully ask your strong support in passing the Bill, with the amendments proposed by State Parks. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important matter to the Kauai community.

Very truly yours,



¹ Testimony of Dawn N.S. Chang, Chairperson, DLNR, before the House Committee on Water & Land, 2/4/2025
268 Hua Place, Wailua Mauka, Kapaa, Kauai, Hawaii 96746-9608
(808) 635-3226

HB-1348-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 1:34:52 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/27/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
laurel brier	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a Kauai resident and part of the Koke'e Leaseholders Association, I, along with the 5 families in our cabin hui strongly support HB1348 and the amendments which are being proposed by State Parks. This bill promotes an equitable process for our community to acquire leases for the recreational residence cabins in Kokee, Kaua'i. Kokee is for everyone and the State needs reliable caretakers for the cabins in Kokee. Strong support including State Park amendments

HB-1348-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 1:39:54 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/27/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David Slaski	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

David P Slaski RPh. LMT

Wailua, Kauai

February 27, 2025

Testimony in Support of HB 1348 HD1 RELATING TO PUBLIC LANDS.

Representative David A. Tarnas, Chair

Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

Aloha Chair Tarnas and Vice Chair Poepoe, and members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs,

I am writing in strong support of HB 1348 HD1 and the amendments to HD1 which are being proposed by State Parks. This bill is critical and will finally make it a fair and equitable process for our community to acquire leases for the recreational residence cabins in Kokee and Waimea Canyon State Parks on the island of Kaua'i. The amendments being proposed by State Parks are also very important as they clarify when the Board of Land and Natural Resources should use the lottery and when they should use direct negotiation. We do not want future leaders in the DLNR to have any confusion over the process this bill is proposing. Thank you for your time and support of HB1348.

David P Slaski RPh. LMT

HB-1348-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 1:55:29 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/27/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan Stayton	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas and Vice Chair Poepoe, and members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs,

I am writing in strong support of HB1348 HD1 and the amendments which are being proposed by State Parks. This bill is critical and will finally make it a fair and equitable process for our community to acquire leases for the recreational residence cabins in Kokee and Waimea Canyon State Parks on the island of Kaua'i. The amendments being proposed by State Parks are also very important as they clarify when the Board of Land and Natural Resources should use the lottery and when they should use direct negotiation. We do not want future leaders in the DLNR to have any confusion over the process this bill is proposing.

This bill corrects several problems caused by the current regulations that govern leasing of cabins in State Parks.

First, there have been several auctions in the recent past that caused extremely high bidding for leases. This forced out many local families with limited means, thus giving the appearance that cabins in Koke'e are only for the wealthy. This should not be the case as many local families were originally lessees, love and value Koke'e, and are excellent stewards of the land and parks. The lottery system with fixed reasonable lease increases is much fairer.

Second, this bill provides for some incentives to lessees to maintain or even improve the cabins (which used to belong to the lessees until the State took ownership in 2008). With no opportunity to recoup their investments by selling their cabins, many lessees simply left their cabins to fall apart. This was a tragedy for the State and for the community.

Thank you very much for your consideration,

Susan, Lawai, Kauai

HB-1348-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 2:13:42 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/27/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Russell McCluskey II	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As someone born and raised on Kaua'i, I, Russell McCluskey II, am writing to express my strong support for HB 1348 HD1 and the amendments to HD1 proposed by State Parks. This bill is essential for ensuring a fair and equitable process for our community to acquire leases for the recreational residence cabins in Kokee and Waimea Canyon State Parks on Kaua'i.

The amendments suggested by State Parks are also crucial as they provide clarity on when the Board of Land and Natural Resources should use the lottery system versus direct negotiation. It is important that future leaders of the DLNR have a clear understanding of the process outlined in this bill to avoid any confusion moving forward.

Thank you for considering my support for this vital piece of legislation.

HB-1348-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 2:40:59 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/27/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Parker Croft	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

02/27/2025

PARKER CROFT, MOLOA'A KAUAI

SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1348 HD1. RELATING TO PUBLIC LANDS

TO: HOUSE JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

REPRESENTATIVE DAVID A. TARNAS CHAIR

REPRESRENTATIVE MAHINA POEPOE VICE-CHAIR

Aloha Chairman Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepeo and Members of the House Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs Committee

February 27, 2025

Aloha,

This letter is written in support of HB1348 with Ammendments HD1. It is important to stress that this letter specifically endorses the amendments that have been offered by State Parks. This bill is critical and will finally make it a fair and equitable process for our community to acquire leases for the recreational residence cabins in Kokee and Waimea Canyon State Parks on the island of Kaua'i. The referenced amendments being proposed by State Parks are important as they clarify when the Board of Land and Natural Resources should use the lottery and when they should use direct negotiation. We seek to. Guide future leaders in the DLNR in avoiding any confusion over the process this bill is proposing.

As a resident of Moloa'a, on the island of Kaua'i I support the proposal to give the DLNR the right to hold a lottery that is limited to the residents of Kaua'i and Ni'ihau for cabins in Waimea State Park and Koke'e State Park. The local people are the fabric of this community. By

enabling the local people to effectively participate we maintain our community and identity. If the pool is opened to a larger population the community will lose its fabric.

HB1348 HD1 encourages the community to maintain the quality of the neighborhood properties with their effort and investment. It incentivizes maintaining the leases in good standing and to abide by the terms of the lease. This further stabilizes the community and keeps the fabric of this historic neighborhood whole and healthy.

Where leases are transferred, the one time fee of \$1,200.00 is a fair and reasonable assessment to cover the administrative costs of making that change. I support this assessment.

This position is based on maintaining fair and equitable access to the resources of Kaua'i by the members of our community. By continuing to keep the multi-generational, economically accessible policies of access to the leases in Waimea and Koke'e State Parks we will be achieving an important goal of genuine support of a healthy community.

Respectfully,

Parker Croft

HB-1348-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 2:57:23 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/27/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mary Williamson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony in Support of HB 1348 HD1 RELATING TO PUBLIC LANDS

TO: House JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS Committee

Rep. David A. Tarnas, Chair

Rep. Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

Aloha, Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs,

I am writing in strong support of HB 1348 and the amendments proposed by State Parks.

This bill is critical and will create a fair and equitable process for the Kaua`i community to acquire leases for the recreational residence cabins in Koke`e and Waimea Canyon State Parks. The amendments being proposed by State Parks are very important as they clarify when the Board of Land and Natural Resources should use the lottery and when they should use direct negotiation. We do not want future leaders in the DLNR to have any confusion over the process this bill is proposing.

On behalf of our extended 'ohana, I thank you for taking steps to better manage, with greater fairness, the historic Koke`e cabins and upland community.

Our great-grandparents built the cabin during the Great Depression and we are so grateful to have kept it in our family for almost 100 years, enjoying stay-cations, celebrating holidays, and hosting friends at this refuge through a World War, a pandemic, and decades of dramatic change in between. As generations have moved around — off island or to the continent for education, work, or marrying into families elsewhere — this wahi pana has been our only constant and common "family home" at which we gather, repeat all the old shared stories, and make new memories. Over the years, family members have given back to the area by serving on the Koke`e Museum / Hui o Laka board, helping maintain Faye road, pruning plum orchards, and organizing the annual Pedal to the Meadow bicycle race.

- We agree that DLNR should have the ability to make vacant cabins available via lottery, not auction;
- We agree that only residents of Kaua'i County would be able to participate;

- We agree that maintenance by lessees must be incentivized, so that properties do not fall into disrepair when the cost of a new roof, total rewiring/plumbing, septic systems, or other crucial projects is prohibitive;
- We agree with 'direct negotiation' for families that abide by lease terms (eg. never renting out, upholding design standards) and are good-faith stewards of cabins and mauka lands; and,
- We agree with amendments made by State Parks during recent hearings.

Mahalo for your consideration of these improvements.

Mary Williamson

Danford/Williamson family

HB-1348-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 3:17:41 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/27/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jodie Kona	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha My name is Jodie Kona I am writing in STRONG support of HB 1348 HD1 and the amendments to HD1 which are being proposed by State Parks. This bill is critical and will finally make it a fair and equitable process for our community to acquire leases for the recreational residence cabins in Kokee and Waimea Canyon State Parks on the island of Kaua‘i. The amendments being proposed by State Parks are also very important as they clarify when the Board of Land and Natural Resources should use the lottery and when they should use direct negotiation. We do not want future leaders in the DLNR to have any confusion over the process this bill is proposing. I wish to continue to share Kokee with my family for generations to come. Without this bill, I believe that this will be another Piece of Kauai ripped away from the locals! The seven auctioned cabins that took place 2024 is a prime example. To sit in that room, witness the disbelief, and defeat in local families was the most devastating and heartbreaking thing to ever witness. An auction will only allow the wealthy transplant local residents to get a cabin. Transplant locals have no ties to kokee and will have no interest in being good stewards of the land. Most cabins have been in generational families that have so much historical knowledge of kokee. This Auction should NOT have happened and should not happen again.

By keeping the appraisals for the lease as reasonable will allow cabin leaseholders to affordability continue caring and up keeping these cabins and if they are in good standing that should allow them to negotiate directly with the state to renew the leases I feel is the best way to go about this. Cabin leaseholders put SO MUCH of their hard-earned money and time investing in these cabin and maintaining the yards and surroundings why take this away from them. This would be a positive incentive to upkeep, maintain and financially be in good standing and in return, your lease will automatically be renewed. The one-time fee to transfer leases is also reasonable.

Kokee defiantly has a piece of my heart. My Grandfather, late Gabriel Silva was one of many young men that were housed at the Koke‘e Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC camp) between years 1935 and 1942. Their mission was to plant trees for watershed retention and improve park infrastructure following devastation of a large fire in 1887 and subsequent decades of cattle pasturing and overgrazing by feral goats and cattle. Alaka‘i Swamp Trail and Hā‘ena-Kalalau Trail and Many remote roads were built to access planting areas that are used today as fire roads in case of wildfire. A satellite camp at Waialae was built and part is still used today. The C.C.C. gave the Territory’s Board of Agriculture and Forestry a tremendous boast to accomplish forest

management and natural resources conservation objectives on Kaua‘i. My grandfather was fortunate to still be one of a few men still living to be recognized for these accomplishments up in kokee. Growing up my grandfather installed his knowledge to his family. Kokee will always hold a deep place in my heart. My hopes are that you have read every single testimony as it holds a special meanings to the people of Kauai and Niihau. I thank you for your time. Please do this for the people of Kauai & Niihau.

Mahalo,

Jodie (Silva) Kona

HB-1348-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 3:30:04 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/27/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gaylord Wilcox	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony from Gaylord Wilcox (primary residence in Honolulu) for the House JHA Committee on February 27, 2025 on HB 1348.

I support HB 1348 proposing the State incorporate fair market values for lotteries and negotiation with its recreational residential leases. As a current leaseholder of such a residence in Kokee, I am aware that recent methods of assigning leases have often not worked for the betterment of the people of Kauai, resulting in problematic lease assignments, such as pricing out many locals who would make good use of the properties. The amendments proposed by State Parks are critical to assuring the bill is clear as to the intent and process.

HB-1348-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 3:40:00 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/27/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Katherine Richardson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe and members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

I am writing in strong support of HB 1348 HD1 and the amendments to HD1 which are being proposed by State Parks. This bill is critical and will finally make it a fair and equitable process for our community to acquire leases for the recreational residence cabins in Kokee and Waimea Canyon State Parks on the island of Kaua‘i. The amendments being proposed by State Park are also very important as they clarify when the Board of Land and Natural Resources should use the lottery and when they should use direct negotiation. We do not want future leaders in the DLNR to have any confusion over the process this bill is proposing.

As a lifelong resident of Kauai, I've had the privilege of utilizing family and friends Kokee cabins and hope someday soon I may have my own cabin for my family. As a steward of the forest, As my parents and grandparents taught me, I've taught my children to respect, preserve and share this wonderful resource and will mentor my grandchildren to be stewards of this treasure. It is imperative the cabins be for the residents of Kauai. The last auction, 2024, was a disaster and showed the auction process was not a sustainable process. Allowing current leaseholders in good standing to negotiate the renewal of their lease is a fair and equitable process.

Thank you for hearing our testimony and I urge you to **please support HB1348 HD1.**

Warmest Aloha,

Katherine G Richardson

2965 Mokoī St. Lihue HI 96766

James Mayfield

3-3400 Kuhio Hwy. #B-308

Lihue, Hi. 96766

Hearing date: Thursday, 2/27/25

Subject: Testimony in Support of HB 1348 HD1 relating to public lands

TO: House Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs Committee

Representative David A. Tamas, Chair

Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

Aloha Chair Tamas and Vice Chair Poepoe, and members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs,

Having spent the weekend at my Kokee cabin, it is my pleasure to again provide support to the proposed change regarding the leasehold Kokee cabins. Yes, about four hours were spent fixing up/repairing damage from the wind-storm from three weeks ago, but it was a labor of love.

As I understand it, the State Parks has proposed the bill HB-1348 HD1. And while perhaps no bill is perfect, the current process requires change. Is the current process fair or equitable for locals to possibly lease a cabin? No. Will the proposal clarify when the Board of Land and Natural Resources should use direct negotiation with exiting leaseholders or, a lottery when necessary? Yes. We need a proposal that is clear to future leaders on these changes as this bill proposes. Existing tenants who live full-time on Kauai, who have maintained their cabins appropriately and made all lease payments on a timely basis should be given the opportunity to negotiate their lease renewal. If it works in a manner similar to the National Parks, it will probably work well here on Kauai.

Am I writing for my own-self-benefit? Yes. My lease matures in 6 years. However, it is less for my benefit given my age but rather for my 34 year-old pregnant daughter who is moving back to Kauai in six months. While not the only reason for her to return home, it is a major reason. She loves Kokee (got married at the cabin) and will be an asset as a PHD scientist in the management of the state park.

Thank you for your consideration.

HB-1348-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 4:43:05 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/27/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jimmy Johnson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of HB 1348 HD1 and the amendments to HD1 which are being proposed by State Parks. This bill is critical and will finally make it a fair and equitable process for our community to acquire leases for the recreational residence cabins in Kokee and Waimea Canyon State Parks on the island of Kaua'i. The amendments being proposed by State Parks are also very important as they clarify when the Board of Land and Natural Resources should use the lottery and when they should use direct negotiation. We do not want future leaders in the DLNR to have any confusion over the process this bill is proposing.

HB-1348-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 5:54:33 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/27/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stephanie Austin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this bill!

HB-1348-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 6:20:24 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/27/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kylie E Wilson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of HB 1348 HD1 and the amendments to HD1 which are being proposed by State Parks. This bill is critical and will finally make it a fair and equitable process for our community to acquire leases for the recreational residence cabins in Kokee and Waimea Canyon State Parks on the island of Kaua'i. The amendments being proposed by State Parks are also very important as they clarify when the Board of Land and Natural Resources should use the lottery and when they should use direct negotiation. We do not want future leaders in the DLNR to have any confusion over the process this bill is proposing.

HB-1348-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 8:40:12 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/27/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elizabeth Kibble	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of HB1348 HD1 and the amendments to HD1 which are being proposed by State Parks. This bill is critical and will finally make it a fair and equitable process for our community to acquire leases for the recreational residence cabins in Kokee and Waimea Canyon State Parks on the island of Kauai. The amendments being proposed by State Parks are also very important as they clarify when the Board of Land and Natural Resources should use the lottery and when they should use direct negotiation. We do not want future leaders in the DLNR to have any confusion over the process this bill is proposing.

I thank you for your support.

My husband, Nick Beck (who was born on Kauai) and I, are residents of Kauai.

Mahalo

Elizabeth Kibble

TESTIMONY
by
JoAnn A. Yukimura
before the
House Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs Committee
Re HB 1438 HD 1

February 27, 2025

Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Committee Members:

My name is JoAnn Yukimura. I was born and raised on Kaua'i and served as mayor or councilmember on Kaua'i for 28 years.

Today, I speak as a private citizen for myself and my family. We are strongly in favor of HB 1438 HD 1 and the amendments proposed by State Parks.

Such a bill will at last provide a clear and fair process by which the residential leases to Kōke'e cabins will be leased out by lottery. Importantly, it will also clarify when a lottery is appropriate and when direct negotiation is appropriate.

Like many of the families who live on Kaua'i, my 'ohana loves Koke'e. It is a place of refuge and rest, where we can enjoy the beauty, peace and rejuvenating power of nature. We go there as often as we can. My husband and I were married there many years ago.

We support a lottery system among Kaua'i residents as a fair way to distribute the leases. It is the Kaua'i families who can most easily access Koke'e, and it is Kaua'i families for whom the recreational residence program was developed years ago. Kaua'ians love their island home, and most will take good care of the resource if given the proper framework in which to make it all work. HB 1438 HD1, with the State Park amendments, provides such a framework.

Please pass a properly amended HB 1438 HD1 out of committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony

HB-1348-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 10:25:59 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/27/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Patricia Finberg	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of HB 1348 HD1 and the amendments to HD1 which are being proposed by State Parks. This bill is critical and will finally make it a fair and equitable process for our community to acquire leases for the recreational residence cabins in Kokee and Waimea Canyon State Parks on the island of Kaua'i. The amendments being proposed by State Parks are also very important as they clarify when the Board of Land and Natural Resources should use the lottery and when they should use direct negotiation. We do not want future leaders in the DLNR to have any confusion over the process this bill is proposing.

Please do what is pono for Hawaii's future and support SB1348. Ensure that Keiki of Kaua'i, our future generations, will have an opportunity to lease Kokee cabins through lottery, Koke'e cabins belong to Kaua'i residents, and should remain in the hands of Kaua'i residents,

Mahalo,

Pat Finberg

Kauai Resident since 1972

HB-1348-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 6:10:43 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/27/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
marau beck	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of HB 1348 HD1 and the amendments to HD1 which are being proposed by State Parks. This bill is critical and will finally make it a fair and equitable process for our community to acquire leases for the recreational residence cabins in Kokee and Waimea Canyon State Parks on the island of Kaua‘i. The amendments being proposed by State Parks are also very important as they clarify when the Board of Land and Natural Resources should use the lottery and when they should use direct negotiation. We do not want future leaders in the DLNR to have any confusion over the process this bill is proposing.

I am a 7th generation family member on Kauai and would like to secure kokee for my children and their children.

Marau Beck

HB-1348-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 10:15:53 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/27/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
John Peter Watts	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

John Peter Watts

1751 Hulu Road, Kapa'a HI 97646

Re: Hearing on February 27, 2025, 2:00 PM

Subject: Testimony in Support of HB 1348 HD1 RELATING TO PUBLIC LANDS.

To: House Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs Committee

Representative David A. Tarnas, Chair

Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

Aloha,

I have been a resident of the island of Kauai for more than forty-five years. My wife is a leaseholder at Koke'e. All three of my children were born here, as were two of my grandchildren.

I am writing in strong support of HB 1348 HD1 and the amendments to HD1 which are being proposed by State Parks. This bill is critical and will finally make it a fair and equitable process for our community to acquire leases for the recreational residence cabins in Kokee and Waimea Canyon State Parks on the island of Kaua'i. The amendments being proposed by State Parks are also very important as they clarify when the Board of Land and Natural Resources should use the lottery and when they should use direct negotiation. We do not want future leaders in the DLNR to have any confusion over the process this bill is proposing.

I respectfully ask for your support in passing this Bill. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important matter.

Very truly yours,

Peter Watts

HB-1348-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 10:43:41 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/27/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sami Loidl	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas and Vice Chair Poepoe, and members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs,

I am writing in strong support of HB 1348 HD1 and the amendments to HD1 which are being proposed by State Parks. This bill is critical and will finally make it a fair and equitable process for our community to acquire leases for the recreational residence cabins in Kokee and Waimea Canyon State Parks on the island of Kaua'i. The amendments being proposed by State Parks are also very important as they clarify when the Board of Land and Natural Resources should use the lottery and when they should use direct negotiation. We do not want future leaders in the DLNR to have any confusion over the process this bill is proposing.

As a 24 year old Pacific Islander who won a lease in the last auction, I truly hope another auction is never allowed to take place for a Kōke'e cabin again. By replacing the auctions with a fair lottery system and allowing current leases in good standing the ability to renew first, it further ensures that these beloved cabins are in the hands of those who love this land, who know this land, and who will continue to give back to this land. I urge you to please show your support for bill HB1348 HD1, as it is a step in the right direction for the people of Kaua'i. Thank you very much.

Sami Livé-Loidl, Lot 82.

HB-1348-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 11:17:33 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/27/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Harvest Edmonds	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of HB 1348 HD1 and the amendments to HD1 which are being proposed by State Parks. This bill is critical and will finally make it a fair and equitable process for our community to acquire leases for the recreational residence cabins in Kokee and Waimea Canyon State Parks on the island of Kaua‘i. The amendments being proposed by State Parks are also very important as they clarify when the Board of Land and Natural Resources should use the lottery and when they should use direct negotiation. We do not want future leaders in the DLNR to have any confusion over the process this bill is proposing.

Mahalo, Harvest Edmonds

HB-1348-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 11:25:20 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/27/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christine Faye	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of HB 1348 and the amendments proposed by State Parks. This bill is critical and will finally make it a fair and equitable process for our community to acquire leases for the recreational residence cabins in Kokee and Waimea Canyon State Park on the Island of Kauai. The amendments being proposed by State Parks are significant as they clarify when the Board of Land and Natural Resources should use a lottery and when they should use direct negotiations. We do not want future leaders in the DLNR to be confused over the process this bill proposes.

Mahalo for your kind attention and regard for the residents of Kauai.

HB-1348-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 12:43:28 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/27/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Wendy Wichman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas and Vice Chair Poepoe, and members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs,

I am writing in strong support of HB 1348 HD1 and the amendments to HD1 which are being proposed by State Parks. This bill is critical and will finally make it a fair and equitable process for our community to acquire leases for the recreational residence cabins in Kokee and Waimea Canyon State Parks on the island of Kaua‘i. The amendments being proposed by State Parks are also very important as they clarify when the Board of Land and Natural Resources should use the lottery and when they should use direct negotiation. We do not want future leaders in the DLNR to have any confusion over the process this bill is proposing.

Subject: Testimony in Support of HB1348 RELATING TO PUBLIC LANDS.

Report Title: Public Lands; Recreation-residence Use Leases; Public Lottery

TO: COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Representative David Tarnas, Chair

Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

Aloha Chair Tarnas and Vice Chair Poepoe, and members of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs,

I am writing in **strong support** of HB1348 and the amendments which are being proposed by State Parks which amends HRS 171-44 to make it a fair and equitable process for our community to lease and maintain the recreational residence cabins in Kokee and Waimea Canyon State Parks on the island of Kaua'i. The amendments being proposed by State Parks are also very important as they clarify when the Board of Land and Natural Resources should use the lottery and when they should use direct negotiation. We do not want future leaders in the DLNR to have any confusion over the process this bill is proposing.

HB1348 incentivizes lessees to remain in good standing and truly abide by the terms of their lease and be good stewards of the property as it allows for lessees in "good standing" to be able to renew their lease when the lease comes to an end. Lessees who have been good stewards of their cabins and the land, and who are in good standing, will be able to "directly negotiate with the board to extend the lease for an additional term not to exceed twenty years". This is consistent with the U.S. Forest Service model which is what the Hawaii system was modeled after when it was set up in 1918.

The State currently has little ability to enforce the terms of the recreational residence leases due to limited staffing but by allowing only lessees in "good standing" to be able to renew their leases this bill will provide a VERY strong motivation to lessees to abide by all of the terms of their lease. Additionally, HB1348 provides an incentive for lessees to continue to invest our own money to care for and improve these historic properties. Many lessees and their families have been maintaining these cabins for many decades, in some cases were the original builders of the cabins over a century ago and continue to pour sweat and cash into maintenance and improvements we no longer own. By excluding the value of any on-site improvements (made by the lessee during the term of their lease) in determining the fair market value of a lease when it is up for renewal as well as providing leaseholders the right to negotiate to extend at the end of the lease term this bill provides assurance that incentivizes lessees to re-invest in the continued maintenance and upgrades of these properties to ensure this historic community remains.

Thank you for your support of our community and the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this important bill.

Aloha,

R. McKibbin Mist

HB-1348-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/26/2025 5:11:16 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/27/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anne W English	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Anne English

PO Box 389, Lawai, Hawaii 96765

Hearing date: 2/27/25

Subject: Testimony in Support of HB 1348 HD1 RELATING TO PUBLIC LANDS.

TO: House JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS Committee

Representative David A. Tarnas, Chair Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

Aloha Chair Tarnas and Vice Chair Poepoe, and members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

I am writing in strong support of HB 1348 HD1 and the amendments to HD1 which are being proposed by State Parks. This bill is critical and will finally make it a fair and equitable process for our community to acquire leases for the recreational residence cabins in Kokee and Waimea Canyon State Parks on the island of Kaua'i. The amendments being proposed by State Parks are also very important as they clarify when the Board of Land and Natural Resources should use the lottery and when they should use direct negotiation. We do not want future leaders in the DLNR to have any confusion over the process this bill is proposing. We appreciate your time and consideration with this very important bil.

Thank you for your time and again, I urge you to support HB1348.

Anne English

Lawai, Kauai, Hawaii

Kauai resident since 1988

27-March-2025

Subject: Testimony in Support of HB1348 HD 1 RELATING TO PUBLIC LANDS.

Report Title: Public Lands; Recreation-residence Use Leases; Public Lottery

TO: COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Representative David Tarnas, Chair

Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

Aloha Chair Tarnas and Vice Chair Poepoe, and members of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs,

I am writing in **strong support** of HB1348 and the amendments which are being proposed by State Parks which amends HRS 171-44 to make it a fair and equitable process for our community to lease and maintain the recreational residence cabins in Kokee and Waimea Canyon State Parks on the island of Kaua'i. The amendments being proposed by State Parks are also very important as they clarify when the Board of Land and Natural Resources should use the lottery and when they should use direct negotiation. We do not want future leaders in the DLNR to have any confusion over the process this bill is proposing.

HB1348 incentivizes lessees to remain in good standing and truly abide by the terms of their lease and be good stewards of the property as it allows for lessees in "good standing" to be able to renew their lease when the lease comes to an end. Lessees who have been good stewards of their cabins and the land, and who are in good standing, will be able to "directly negotiate with the board to extend the lease for an additional term not to exceed twenty years". This is consistent with the U.S. Forest Service model which is what the Hawaii system was modeled after when it was set up in 1918.

By allowing only lessees in "good standing" to be able to renew their leases this bill will provide a VERY strong motivation to lessees to abide by all of the terms of their lease. Additionally, HB1348 provides an incentive for lessees to continue to invest our own money to care for and improve these historic properties. Many lessees and their families have been maintaining these cabins for many decades, in some cases were the original builders of the cabins over a century ago and continue to pour sweat and cash into maintenance and improvements we no longer own. By excluding the value of any on-site improvements (made by the lessee during the term of their lease) in determining the fair market value of a lease when it is up for renewal as well as providing leaseholders the right to negotiate to extend at the end of the lease term this bill provides assurance that incentivizes lessees to re-invest in the continued maintenance and upgrades of these properties to ensure this historic community remains.

Thank you for your support of our community and the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this important bill.

Aloha,

Mark W. Moragne

HB-1348-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/27/2025 10:17:33 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/27/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joanne Murphy	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Joanne Murphy

237 Kipu Place, Lihue, Kauai, Hawaii 96766

(808) 346 - 1201

February 26, 2025

Subject: Testimony in Support of HB 1348 HD1 RELATING TO PUBLIC LANDS.

TO: House Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs Committee

Representative David A. Tarnas, Chair

Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

Aloha Chair Tarnas and Vice Chair Poepoe, and members of the House Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs Committee

I'm writing to support HB 1348 HD 1 AND THE AMENDMENTS TO hd1 WHICH ARE BEING PROPOSED BY State Parks. This bill is critical and will finally make it a fair and equitable process for our community to acquire leases for the recreational residence cabins in Koke'e and Waimea Canon State Parks on the island of Kauai.

The amendments being proposed by State Parks are also very important as they clarify when the Board of Land and Natural Resources should use the lottery and when they should use direct negotiations. We are hoping to avoid confusion over the process this bill is proposing.

Neighbor islands should be excluded from the lottery because Koke'e is so special. You want people that care for the area and will malama it by making sure people take care of it The residents of Kauai will continue to care for the land because we live here, we are the eyes and

ears for DLNR. I know lots of Kauaians who donate and volunteer with organizations that also care for Koke'e like Koke'e Resource Conservation Program, Kokua Koke'e, Forest Bird Recovery, Nature Conservatory, Division of Forestry and Wildlife and more. It's our home we will take care.

Please allow them to negotiate directly with the state to renew the leases

Thank you so much for allowing me to give a written testimony and I hope you'll support it.

Mahalo,

Joanne Murphy

HB-1348-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/27/2025 10:23:49 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/27/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lorraine Wichman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Anthony and Lorraine Wichman

P O Box 929 , Koloa, Kauai, Hawaii 96756

(808) 651-7866

February 26, 2025

Subject: Testimony in Support of HB 1348 HD1 RELATING TO PUBLIC LANDS.

TO: House Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs Committee

Representative David A. Tarnas, Chair

Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

Aloha Chair Tarnas and Vice Chair Poepoe, and members of the House Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs Committee

I'm writing to support HB 1348 HD 1 AND THE AMENDMENTS TO hd1 WHICH ARE BEING PROPOSED BY State Parks. This bill is critical and will finally make it a fair and equitable process for our community to acquire leases for the recreational residence cabins in Koke'e and Waimea Canon State Parks on the island of Kauai.

The amendments being proposed by State Parks are also very important as they clarify when the Board of Land and Natural Resources should use the lottery and when they should use direct negotiations. We are hoping to avoid confusion over the process this bill is proposing.

The people of Kauai care for the area and will continue to care for this area this bill is talking about and because we live here, we are the eyes and ears for DLNR. I know lots of Kauaians who donate and volunteer with organizations that also care for Koke'e like Koke'e Resource

Conservation Program, Kokua Koke'e, Forest Bird Recovery, Nature Conservatory, Division of Forestry and Wildlife and more. It's our home we will take care.

Please allow them to negotiate directly with the state to renew the leases

Thank you so much for allowing us to give a written testimony and I hope you'll support it.

Mahalo,

Anthony Isaac Wichman and Lorraine, Kaleimamo, Haruko, Wichman

HB-1348-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/27/2025 12:36:00 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/27/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cathy Shanks	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for receiving my testimony in support of HB1348 HD1 and the amendments which is proposed by the State Parks division.

This bill is critical and will finally make it a fair and equitable process for our community to acquire leases for the recreational residence cabins in Kokee and Waimea Canyon State Parks on the island of Kaua'i. The amendments being proposed by State Parks are also very important as they clarify when the Board of Land and Natural Resources should use the lottery and when they should use direct negotiation. We do not want future leaders in the DLNR to have any confusion over the process this bill is proposing.

Please help us keep our land for our community and our future.

Mahalo nui,

Cathy Shanks