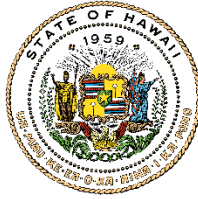


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



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

P.O. BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

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

**Before the House Committee on
PUBLIC SAFETY**

**Friday, March 21, 2025
9:00 AM**

State Capitol, Conference Room 411 and Via Videoconference

**In consideration of
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 207 / HOUSE RESOLUTION 199
URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO
CONDUCT A COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OF ALL MILITARY-
LEASED LANDS**

House Concurrent Resolution 207 and House Resolution 199 urge the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to conduct a comprehensive economic analysis of all military-leased lands. **The Department offers the following comments.**

The Department recognizes the significant public interest in the military's ongoing use of state lands pursuant to leases granted shortly after statehood. These lands were leased at nominal fees for 65-year terms and contained few terms in favor of the State, particularly as they relate to environmental protection. In addition to urging the Department to establish a formal public process for lease renewal negotiations and prepare a report to the Legislature, these resolutions request that the Department assess:

1. Lost economic opportunities from the unavailability of these lands for beneficial trust purposes pursuant to section 5(f) of Public Law 86-3, including agriculture, education, and housing, and the betterment of conditions of Native Hawaiians;
2. The comprehensive costs for cleanup, including contaminants and unexploded ordnance of trust lands;
3. The costs of restoration and development of these trust lands to productive economic use;
4. Lost income to the State had these trust lands been leased at fair market rents, instead of the \$1 leases agreed to between the State and the United States; and
5. Lost tax dollars to the State had these trust lands been utilized for productive purposes under section 5(f) of Public Law 86-3.

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

The Department notes that there is already a statutorily-mandated public process for lease negotiations set forth under Chapters 171 and 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS). These processes provide ample opportunity for robust public participation in the process at duly noticed, public meetings. The various military agencies seeking new leases of state land are currently at the initial stage of this process, which is compliance with Chapter 343, HRS, which requires applicants seeking to lease state lands prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or Environmental Assessment (EA). These documents require formal acceptance by the Board of Land and Natural Resources (Board) at a public meeting during which members of the public may testify and request a contested case. Additionally, the process of preparing an EIS or EA requires an applicant to conduct public outreach and solicit comments on the proposed studies. If the Board votes to accept an EIS or EA, then a request to directly negotiate a lease with an applicant can be taken for Board approval. Such a request would also be required to happen at a duly noticed, public meeting at which the public would have the opportunity to testify on the matter and potentially request a contested case. The Department believes this process provides robust opportunities for public participation in the leasing process.

The Department is concerned about the financial implications of preparing the requested comprehensive economic analysis. Preparation of such an analysis would require the Department to contract a consultant to perform the analysis and produce a report. A request of this breadth would likely exceed \$2 million and saddle the Department with an unfunded mandate that it cannot afford. Accordingly, the Department would request an appropriation in the amount of \$2 million to cover the costs of producing the requested comprehensive economic analysis should these resolutions move forward.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide comments on these resolutions.

HCR-207

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 9:43:51 AM

Testimony for PBS on 3/21/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Russell Tsuji	Department of Land and Natural Resources	Comments	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

DLNR submitted testimony for HCR207 / HR199 on main account. Request for a Zoom link for additional staff to testify remotely as backup.



Environmental Caucus of The Democratic Party of Hawai'i

March 20, 2025

To: Chair Della Au Belatti, Vice Chair Kim Coco Iwamoto, and Members of the Committee on Public Safety

Date: Friday, March 21, 2025, **Time:** 9:00 a.m.

Place: Conference Room 411 & Videoconference

Subject: Testimony in Strong Support of HCR207/HR199 Economic analysis of all military-leased lands in Hawaii

Aloha Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Iwamoto, and Members of the Committee,

The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii strongly supports HCR207/HR199, which urges the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to conduct a comprehensive economic analysis of all military-leased lands in Hawaii.

Key Points in Support:

1. Understanding the Economic Impact of Military-Leased Lands:

- Military-leased lands represent a significant portion of Hawaii's land resources, and their use has far-reaching implications for the state's economy, environment, and communities.
- A comprehensive economic analysis will provide valuable insights into the financial benefits and costs associated with these leases, enabling informed decision-making.

2. Including Costs for Cleanup, Remediation, and Restoration:

- Many military-leased lands contain contaminants, unexploded ordnance (UXOs), and other environmental hazards that pose risks to public health and safety.
- Cleanup and remediation of these sites are often costly, and understanding the financial burden associated with these efforts is essential.
- The economic analysis should also account for the costs of restoring these lands to a safe and usable condition for future generations, ensuring they can serve the public good rather than remaining inaccessible or hazardous.

3. Promoting Transparency and Accountability:

- Conducting an economic analysis ensures transparency in the management of public lands and fosters accountability in lease agreements with the military.
- This process will help identify whether current lease terms align with Hawaii's economic, environmental, and social priorities.

4. Balancing Economic and Environmental Considerations:

- Military activities on leased lands can have significant environmental impacts, including contamination, habitat disruption, and risks from UXOs.
- An economic analysis will help assess whether the financial benefits of these leases outweigh the environmental costs and guide future negotiations to achieve a sustainable balance.

5. Empowering Hawaii's Communities:

- By understanding the economic implications of military-leased lands, Hawaii's residents and policymakers can advocate for fair and equitable lease terms that prioritize the state's long-term interests.
- This analysis will also provide a foundation for community engagement and dialogue on the future use of these lands.

HCR207/HR199 represents a critical step toward ensuring that Hawaii's land resources are managed responsibly and in alignment with the state's economic, environmental, and social goals. We commend the Legislature for its leadership on this issue and urge the passage of this measure to support informed and equitable land management practices.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of this measure.

Respectfully submitted,

Melodie Aduja and Alan Burdick

Co-Chairs Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii



Hawaii Legislative Council Members

Joell Edwards
Wainiha Country Market
Hanalei

Russell Ruderman
Island Naturals
Hilo/Kona

Dr. Andrew Johnson
Niko Niko
Family Dentistry
Honolulu

Robert H. Pahia
Hawaii Taro Farm
Wailuku

Maile Meyer
Na Mea Hawaii
Honolulu

Tina Wildberger
Kihei Ice
Kihei

L. Malu Shizue Miki
Abundant Life
Natural Foods
Hilo

Tanya Aynessazian
Principal Contractor

Chamber of
Sustainable Commerce
808.445.7606
P.O. Box 22394
Honolulu, HI 96823

Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Kim Coco Iwamoto, Vice Chair
Committee on Public Safety

Friday, March 21, 2025
9:00 AM Conference Room 411

RE: **HCR 207** – MilitaryLeased lands – **Strongly Support**

Dear Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Iwamoto, and Members of the Committee,

The Chamber of Sustainable Commerce represents over 460 small businesses and entrepreneurs across the state that strive for a triple bottom line: people, planet and prosperity.

As small business owners who believe we can strengthen Hawaii's economy without hurting workers, consumers, communities or the environment, we ask Committee members to vote in favor of HCR 207 which would urge the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to conduct a comprehensive economic analysis of all military-leased lands. This resolution addresses a critical issue that deserves attention and action, as it has the potential to greatly benefit the residents of Hawaii, the state's economy, and the stewardship of our lands.

Promoting Transparency and Accountability

A comprehensive economic analysis would foster greater transparency and accountability in the leasing process. The public has a right to know the economic impacts of lands leased to the U.S. military, including lost revenue opportunities and the comprehensive costs of bioremediation and cleanup. This will also provide agencies and policymakers with the data needed to make informed decisions about the future of military land leases in Hawaii.

Ensuring Fair Compensation for Public Lands

The U.S. military occupies extensive lands in Hawaii, and it is important that these lands are being used responsibly and with appropriate compensation to the state.

Assessing Environmental and Community Impacts

Military operations have significant environmental and community impacts. A thorough analysis would allow the state to better assess the full cost and benefit of these leases. This will help ensure that these concerns are properly considered when evaluating the leases and their terms.

Enhancing Economic Development and Diversification

Hawaii's economy has long been dependent on tourism and military spending. As we continue to seek to diversify our economy and reduce reliance on these industries, the analysis would help identify opportunities for more sustainable, productive, and profitable use of the land.

Establishing a Transparent Lease Renewal Process

HCR 207 urges the DLNR to establish a formal public process for lease renewal negotiations, ensuring that all affected parties and stakeholders have ample opportunity to provide input before any new agreements are signed.

Adhering to Principles of the State Constitution and Public Land Trust

HCR 207 urges the state to align with the principles enshrined in the Hawaii State Constitution, the Public Land Trust, and the broader commitment to protecting the welfare of the people of Hawaii. Hawaii's lands are not just real estate. Military leases on public lands should serve to generate fair and adequate returns for the State of Hawaii, in a manner that is consistent with the Public Land Trust.

HCR 207 is a step toward gaining a clearer picture of the direct and indirect economic impacts of military land leases, allowing for more public disclosure and discourse, and providing the state with data to make decisions that are in the best interest of Native Hawaiians, all Hawaii residents, as well as the state.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

HO'OPAE PONO PEACE PROJECT

eaPONO.ORG



COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair
Rep. Kim Coco Iwamoto, Vice Chair

Friday, March 21, 2025

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HCR 207 & HR 199

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO CONDUCT A
COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OF ALL MILITARY-LEASED LANDS.

Aloha Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Iwamoto, and Members of the Committee,

I write today in strong support of HCR 207 and HR 199, which urge the Department of Land and Natural Resources to conduct a comprehensive economic analysis of all military-leased lands.

Such an analysis is beyond overdue. The people of Hawai'i need to know what is being taken from us before deciding whether to continue leasing stolen lands to an entity that has been destroying, polluting and hoarding them for uses that contradict peace on Earth, making Hawai'i a potential target for nuclear annihilation or other retaliation for US aggression across Moana Nui, the great Pacific.

We join with the peoples of Moana Nui who say 'A'OLE to war, militarism, and destruction of our lands, waters and cultures, and who stand in solidarity for the building on a bomb-free future where these lands are returned to their rightful Protectors for the thriving of humanity into the future.

Mahalo nui loa.

With much aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Laulani'.

Laulani Teale, MPH
Coordinator
Ho'opae Pono Peace Project



HCR-207

Submitted on: 3/21/2025 7:41:09 AM

Testimony for PBS on 3/21/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Melinda Healani Sonoda-Pale	Ka Lahui Hawaiʻi	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha e Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Iwamoto, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Healani Sonoda-Pale, and I submit this testimony on behalf of Ka Lāhui Hawaiʻi Kōmike Kalaʻiʻāina in strong support of HCR 207.

This resolution is necessary to protect the public land trust and to ensure that the interests of Native Hawaiians and the broader public are represented in a fair, transparent, and data-informed process. As DLNR has acknowledged, many of the military leases were made shortly after statehood for nominal fees—some as low as \$1—and lacked protections for ʻāina and accountability to the people.

The result has been significant cultural and environmental degradation: contamination from depleted uranium, unexploded ordnance, and damage to sacred sites.

While DLNR cites existing public processes under HRS Chapters 171 and 343, on January 28, 2025, they noted:

“The Department has initiated discussions with USDOD on the Department’s land disposition process, including environmental compliance, cultural impact statements, Ka Paʻakai analysis, and expectations of proactive and extensive community engagement by USDOD.”

This statement suggests a level of engagement already taking place.

Moreover, it is essential that the State not operate under the assumption that lease renewals will happen or that negotiations will inevitably lead to renewed agreements. No decision about the future of these lands should be presumed. Doing so risks undermining the very public process that DLNR and the Legislature say they are committed to honoring. If negotiations are occurring now, before key facts such as economic value, environmental damage, and opportunity costs are fully understood, it undermines public trust and weakens the foundation of any future agreements. That is precisely why it is critical that lease discussions are not happening prematurely or behind closed doors.

No meaningful negotiation can occur without first knowing the true economic value of the land, the cost of cleanup and restoration, and the lost opportunities these lands represent for housing, agriculture, education, and the betterment of Native Hawaiians.

HCR 207 charts a responsible path forward—grounded in transparency, data, and community involvement. It ensures decisions made today will not compromise the future of our ‘āina, our lāhui, and our keiki.

Ka Lāhui Hawai‘i urges the committee to pass HCR 207.

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify.



ACLU of Hawai'i
P.O. Box 3410
Honolulu, HI 96801

Office@acluhawaii.org
(808) 522-5900

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

DATE: Friday, March 21, 2025

TIME: 9:00AM

PLACE: VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE & Conference Room 411

RE: **In SUPPORT of HCR207 and HR199** Relating to an Economic Analysis of Military Leased Lands

Aloha Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Iwamoto, and Committee Members,

The ACLU of Hawai'i **strongly supports HCR207 and HR199**, which urge the Department of Land and Natural Resources ("DLNR") to conduct a comprehensive economic analysis of military leased lands. Under Article XI, section 1 of the Hawai'i Constitution, the state has a constitutional duty to ensure that all public lands are stewarded and cared for in the public interest. To fulfill this constitutional mandate, DLNR must perform this economic analysis.

Article XI, section 1 of the Hawai'i Constitution reads:

"For the benefit of present and future generations, the State and its political subdivisions shall conserve and protect Hawaii's natural beauty and all natural resources, including land, water, air, minerals and energy sources, and shall promote the development and utilization of these resources in a manner consistent with their conservation and in furtherance of the self-sufficiency of the State. All public natural resources are held in trust by the State for the benefit of the people."¹

In *Ching v. Case*, the Supreme Court of Hawai'i recognized that the state has a duty to aloha 'āina, to care for Hawai'i's natural and cultural resources for present and future generations.² The Court also found that DLNR breached its constitutional duty to monitor and inspect trust land at issue in the case—unceded public trust lands leased to the military and littered with munitions and explosives. Five years after *Ching*, these issues of stewardship persist.

¹ HAW. CONST. art. XI, § 1 (emphasis added).

² *Ching v. Case*, 449 P.3d 1146, 1160 (Haw. 2019).

The United States military currently occupies more than two hundred thousand acres of the public land trust land under \$1 leases. For perspective, this constitutes nearly a quarter of the land on Oahu.³ Through unexploded ordnances, depleted uranium, contaminated drinking water, and more, the military has damaged the land significantly. These harms reflect a continuation of a historic injustice as recognized in the 1993 Apology Resolution: the illegal overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawai‘i, which deprived Native Hawaiians of their sovereignty, rights, and land.

These resolutions are urgent. Several of these military land leases are set to expire in 2029, and the military is taking steps to renew the leases now. As the trustee of these lands, DLNR must act in the public interest by accounting for the cultural, economic, and environmental harms to the land, the remediation costs, and the value of the land to the public.

Transparency is vital to good governance. **Before** considering whether to renew the land leases, DLNR must perform the comprehensive economic audit outlined in HCR207 and HR199. The failure to do so will severely impede DLNR’s ability to fulfill its constitutional mandate under Article XI, section 1. Please support HCR207 and HR199.

Sincerely,

Emily Sarasa, Policy Fellow

c: Carrie Ann Shirota, Policy Director

The mission of the ACLU of Hawai‘i is to protect the fundamental freedoms enshrined in the U.S. and State Constitutions. The ACLU of Hawai‘i fulfills this through legislative, litigation, and public education programs statewide. The ACLU of Hawai‘i is a non-partisan and private non-profit organization founded in 1965 that provides its services at no cost to the public and does not accept government funds.

³ Saliha Bayrak, *Saving Paradise: The Fight to End Militarization in Hawai‘i*, THE NATION (Apr. 17, 2024), www.thenation.com/article/activism/military-recruiting-hawaii-demilitarization-hpj-jrotc/.



SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAI'I

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

March 21, 2025

9:00 AM

Conference Room 411

In SUPPORT of HCR207/HR199: URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO CONDUCT A COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OF ALL MILITARY-LEASED LANDS.

Aloha Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Iwamoto, and Members of the Committee on Public Safety,

On behalf of our over 20,000 members and supporters, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i **SUPPORTS HCR207/HR199**, which provides for a much-needed comprehensive accounting of the costs that we have incurred and that we may continue to incur under military uses of public and “ceded” (a.k.a. stolen Hawaiian Kingdom government and crown) lands.

The pending expiration of numerous military leases provides us with a unique, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to truly reflect on what has been sacrificed in allowing military activities - including live-fire training, bombing, forced evictions, and toxic contamination - to occur on our limited, fragile, and sacred land base. Sadly, many of these costs are unable to be assessed on purely monetary terms. This includes the severance of Native Hawaiians' connection to their 'āina and their witnessing of the abuse of ancestral lands and living systems they had cared for, and that had cared for their families since time immemorial; the desecration of sacred spaces and sites; the health impacts and loss of lives resulting from toxic exposure, encounters with unexploded ordinance, protest actions, and the erosion of social determinants of health; and the irreparable damage that may have been inflicted on lands, waters, resources, and people through military training and occupation here and abroad. Other harms and opportunity costs - such as those concerning housing, food security, education, and restorative justice for Native Hawaiians, as identified in this measure - may be more easily quantifiable in financial terms, and are likely to be astronomical.

To avoid burdening our children, grandchildren, and future generations with similar or potentially even greater sacrifices, we must ensure that government decisionmakers and the public do not simply turn a blind eye to the potential harms and opportunity costs that may accompany the continued use of our 'āina by the military. A



comprehensive accounting of both past and potential future economic impacts associated with military leases, as proposed by this measure, is one first step to doing so.

Therefore, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i respectfully urges the Committee to **PASS** HCR207/HR199. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify.

HCR-207

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 7:53:48 PM

Testimony for PBS on 3/21/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kailana Moa-eli	The Queen's Court	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

"Aloha, I'm Kailana Moa-Eli with The Queen's Court I am writing to express my full support for House Concurrent Resolution 207. This bill promotes prudent land management and thorough analysis, specifically regarding military operations in Hawaii. By exercising caution and careful consideration, we can safeguard the interests of our land and communities."

HCR-207

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 11:15:13 PM

Testimony for PBS on 3/21/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maile	Queens Court	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha I am Maile Rogers of the Queen's Court and I am in full support of this bill, as it would be beneficial to our Native People of our lands and future generations to come.

HCR-207

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 9:38:01 AM

Testimony for PBS on 3/21/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dave Mulinix	Greenpeace Hawaii	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha PBS Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Iwamoto, and Committee Members [Hashem](#), [Ichiyama](#), [Lamosao](#), [Morikawa](#), [Poepoe](#), [Woodson](#), [Shimizu](#), [Souza](#),

My name is Dave Mulinix I am the CoFounder and Hawaii Representative of Greenpeace Hawaii, and on behalf of our thousands of members and supporters in the State of Hawaii, we Stand in STRONG SUPPORT of HCR207 - URGING the Department of Land and Natural Resources to conduct a comprehensive economic analysis of all military-leased lands.

In the name of National Security the US Military has seized Native Hawaiian Lands promising to be good stewards of the land. However the US Military's cover up of their irresponsible stewardship of the US Navy's Red Hill Fuel Storage Tank spills that contaminated Oahu's drinking water, and their further contamination of dozens of other sites across the state, that they have made little to no attempt to clean up, including but not limited to Pearl Harbor, Pōhakuloa, Kahuku, Kawaihoa, and Mākua, has demonstrated that they are not good stewards of the land.

These Hawaiian Trust Lands have suffered significant environmental and economic degradation due to their use by the United States military, including unexploded ordnances, depleted uranium, contaminated drinking water, shattered caprock, and destroyed structures. So it is in the public interest for these lands to be remediated and returned to beneficial public use without delay.

Since lease renewal negotiations between the Department of Land and Natural Resources and the United States military have not included a transparent public process, it is therefore essential that the DLNR establish a formal public process for the lease renewal negotiations, including public hearings, community consultations, and stakeholder engagement, ensuring that all affected parties have an opportunity to provide input before any new agreements are signed.

In respect of Hawaii's future generations please vote YES in SUPPORT of PASSAGE of HCR207 in an effort to protect Hawaii's land and waters from further US Military irresponsible contamination.

Mahalo for your kind attention,

Dave Mulinix, CoFounder & Hawaii State Representative

Greenpeace Hawaii

HCR-207

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 9:52:27 AM

Testimony for PBS on 3/21/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shannon Matson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Au Bellati, Vice Chair Iwamoto, and Committee Members,

Please support this Resolution urging DLNR to conduct a comprehensive analysis of all our military leased land. It's our tax payer dollars, we all deserve to know where it's all going to and what the economic impacts are.

Mahalo,

Shannon M.

Hawai'i Island Resident

HCR-207

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 1:17:18 PM

Testimony for PBS on 3/21/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nawahine Kahoopii	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Our ohana wholeheartedly supports HCR207.

Not only should all military leases undergo a comprehensive economic analysis, but they must also be 100% economically responsible for cleaning up and restoring our lands to their original condition, as stated in their lease agreements. To date, the entire Island of Kahoolawe remains uninhabitable due to remaining unexploded ordinances. Pohakuloa has impact zones deemed "uninhabitable" due to toxic testing of white phosphorus, depleted uranium and ordinance waste. The contamination of the Red Hill water supply remains unresolved. Portions of military lease lands are actually from the DHHL inventory. Those lands need to be restored, kanaka needs to be compensated, and those lands must be leased to beneficiaries lingering on the "waitlist." Military activities at Pearl Harbor include groundwater and soil contamination. Burial and cultural areas that have been desecrated need to be restored as part of "the economic analysis."

Can you put a price on our Islands and people being a primary nuclear target due to the US military prepping for endless wars? This is a compelling reason to consider the long-term consequences of allowing the leasing of our lands to the military.

What price do our people pay for allowing the training of genocidal occupying forces on our lands? Training that translates into the death and destruction of countless people and their lands:

- Yemen 400,000
- Congo 6 million
- Iraq 1 million, 500,000 children
- Sudan 15,000
- Haiti 6000
- Papua 500,000
- Palestine 300,000 - 30,000 Children

Economic analysis and soul searching are needed to weigh the moral consequences of exchanging dollars for destruction.

What land steward in their right mind would continue to offer leases to one of the most destructive forces on Earth?

Aloha Aina,

Nawahine- Kaho'opi'i Ohana

HCR-207

Submitted on: 3/19/2025 4:53:20 PM

Testimony for PBS on 3/21/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
MANDY CHUN	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HCR207 and HR199. I urge DLNR to conduct a comprehensive economic analysis of all Military-leased lands.

HCR-207

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 8:54:44 AM

Testimony for PBS on 3/21/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keoni Shizuma	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Committee members of the House Committee on Public Safety,

I am testifying in support of this resolution. The amount of land being occupied by the US Military (more than 200,000 acres of public land) justifies the need for this analysis to be conducted. The destructive uses by the various military groups further warrants a study to quantify how much impact the US Military is having on these lands. The costs for clean-up, restoration, as well as fair market values and lost economic opportunities are great considerations to be included in this analysis.

This analysis should include, although not quantifiable, is a mention to the destructive of a native people by being disconnected to the lands which they come from. This lack of access to native lands have led generations of Native Hawaiians to be displaced, not able to practice their culture and traditions on the lands which they are connected to, and tend to lead to an identity crisis that results in homelessness, drug abuse, and alcoholism. While not quantifiable, this should be mentioned within the analysis.

I urge your support of this analysis.

Mahalo,
Keoni Shizuma

HCR-207

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 8:57:18 AM

Testimony for PBS on 3/21/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sherry Pollack	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HCR207/HR199 urging the Department of Land and Natural Resources to conduct a comprehensive economic analysis of all military-leased lands, and in particular, assessing the comprehensive costs for cleanup, including contaminants and unexploded ordnance of trust lands.

This is critical because several military land leases in Hawai'i will expire in 2029. The Department must prepare and establish a formal public process for the lease renewal negotiations, including public hearings, community consultations, and stakeholder engagement, ensuring that all affected parties have an opportunity to provide input before any new agreements are signed.

The military has proven to be a detriment to the safety and well-being of our communities. Their criminal, reckless contamination of the water and land must stop. Hawaii's lands and water must be stewarded and maintained for present and future generations.

I urge you to pass this critical resolution.

HCR-207

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 4:23:33 PM

Testimony for PBS on 3/21/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan Gorman-Chang	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SUPPORT OF : HCR 207

Aloha Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Iwamoto, and Committee Members Hashem, Ichiyama, Lamosao, Morikawa, Poepoe, Woodson, Shimizu, Souza,

I am in full support of HCR 207. The DLNR has a prodigious responsibility as trustee of the public land trust and has been less than stellar in their performance. Now is the time to acknowledge, quantify, rectify and remediate the DLNR's lack of oversight of the military's use of these leased lands, and DLNR's allowance of the military to environmentally and economically degrade the 'aina and wai.

It is imperative, as stated in the HCR 207, that the DLNR submit a report detailing the findings of a comprehensive economic analysis and outlining its plans for future lease negotiations. It is also essential that there is a formal *public* process for the lease renewal *negotiations*.

In her written testimony DLNR Chair Dawn Chang cites Chapters 171 and 343, Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS) as being sufficient and deems HCR 207 unnecessary. Please note that Chapter 343 is simply the Environmental Impact Statement requirements which does not include the specific demands mentioned in HCR 207. Chapter 171 is the section on Conservation and Resources which has a Section 7 for Enforcement, which clearly DLNR has not utilized or followed. Dawn Chang of the DNLNR, in testimony 2/4/2025 at 1:14:53 in the recording [WAL Public Hearing - Tue Feb 4, 2025 @ 9:00 AM HST](#) admitted DNLNR has never ever terminated a military lease so it is clear that even when they have a statute that gives them the authority to hold the military accountable, such as terminating a lease for cause, DLNR chooses not to. Dawn Chang further said in that testimony that the military lease was "from another time" and "less stringent"; however, the actual and applicable Hawai'i State General Lease No. S-3849 states, in paragraph 9, that it *"requires that the United States make every reasonable effort to . . . remove and deactivate all live or blank ammunition upon completion of a training exercise or prior to entry by the public, whichever is sooner."* And in Paragraph 14 of the same lease, the United States agrees to *"take reasonable action during its use of the premises herein demised to prevent unnecessary damage to or destruction of vegetation, wildlife and forest cover, geological features and related natural resources"* and to *"avoid pollution or contamination of all ground and surface waters and remove or bury all trash, garbage and other waste resulting from [the United States'] use of the said premises."*

We must hold DLNR accountable for their responsibilities by articulating them clearly, as is done in HCR 207, in regards to the military leases.

Susan Gorman-Chang

Resident of Ahupua'a of Honouliuli

Committee on Public Safety

Friday, March 21, 2025 9:00 AM Conference Room 411

RE: HCR 207 — MilitaryLeased lands — Strongly Support

Dear Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Iwamoto, and Members of the Committee,

As an engaged resident of Hawai'i, I write in **strong support of HCR 207**, which calls on the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to conduct a thorough economic analysis of all military-leased lands. This is a necessary step to ensure responsible stewardship of public land, transparency in decision-making, and a fair assessment of how these leases impact our communities and economy.

Currently, the financial and environmental costs associated with military land use remain unclear to the public. Conducting a comprehensive study would provide critical data on lost revenue potential, the expense of land restoration, and the broader economic effects of these leases. The people of Hawai'i deserve full transparency regarding how these lands are managed and whether they are truly serving the public good.

Moreover, military activities have significant environmental and social consequences that must be properly evaluated. A full accounting of both the costs and benefits of these leases would allow the state to negotiate fairer terms and ensure that public lands are being used in ways that align with the long-term needs of Hawai'i's people. At a time when economic diversification is a priority, this analysis could also reveal alternative opportunities for land use that contribute to a more resilient and sustainable local economy.

Importantly, HCR 207 also emphasizes the need for a structured public process in lease renewals. Public lands should not be negotiated behind closed doors without meaningful community input. Establishing a formal mechanism for stakeholder engagement would ensure that the voices of Hawai'i's residents—especially those most impacted—are heard before any new agreements are finalized.

Public lands are not an unlimited resource, nor should they be treated as a foregone conclusion for military use. The State has a responsibility to uphold the principles of the Hawai'i Constitution and the Public Land Trust by ensuring that these lands are managed in a way that prioritizes the well-being of all Hawai'i residents, including Native Hawaiians.

For these reasons, **I urge the committee to support HCR 207** and take this crucial step toward transparency, accountability, and a more equitable future for our state.

Thank you for considering my testimony and please support this resolution.

Submitted in my personal capacity.

Sincerely,

Laura Acasio, Hilo

HCR-207

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 4:31:17 PM

Testimony for PBS on 3/21/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Madison Owens	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Iwamoto, and Members of the Public Safety Committee,

I strongly support HCR207/HR199, which seek critical information the public deserves to know, in order to properly assess the renewal of military leases on tens of thousands of acres of public trust and stolen Hawaiian lands. **I urge you to pass these measures and ensure that any decision making on these resolutions includes a roll call vote by each committee member.**

The Department of Defense and the state Department of Land and Natural Resources have said that the "days of \$1 lease rent are over," in discussions regarding the renewal of military leases of public lands - including sacred spaces - all stolen from the Hawaiian Kingdom, and held in trust for the benefit of native Hawaiians and the public. But what do they think these leases are truly worth? More importantly, how will we, the people of Hawai'i, ensure we don't sell out our future generations' food security, housing, cultural practices, and economic opportunities in any decision to allow the continued occupation and use - or abuse - of our 'āina?

As lease negotiations may be imminent, we cannot rely on the current processes by the Department of Defense and the state Department of Land and Natural Resources. Shouldn't the public first know what these public lands and sacred spaces are actually worth? Shouldn't we consider the long-term impacts on our children and future generations before allowing the continued military use and abuse of these lands? These are bare minimum, critical questions that HCR207 and HR199 will help us address. We must know these answers before we entertain any potential renewal of military leases of our 'āina.

I urge you to pass HCR207 and HR199, and in any case, to give every committee member the chance to voice their individual support or opposition to these measures in a roll call vote.

Thank you,

Madison Owens

HCR-207

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 7:14:34 PM

Testimony for PBS on 3/21/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kristen Young	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Iwamoto, and Members of the Public Safety Committee,

I strongly support HCR207/HR199, which seek critical information the public deserves to know, to truly assess the renewal of military leases for tens of thousands of acres of public trust and stolen Hawaiian lands - and what they may cost our children and future generations. **I urge you to pass these measures, and please ensure that any decisionmaking on these resolutions occurs with a roll call vote by each committee member.**

The Department of Defense and the state Department of Land and Natural Resources have said that the "days of \$1 lease rent are over," in discussions regarding the renewal of military leases of public lands - including sacred spaces - all stolen from the Hawaiian Kingdom, and held in trust for the benefit of native Hawaiians and the public. But what do they think these leases are truly worth? More importantly, how will we, the people of Hawai'i, ensure we don't sell out our future generations' food security, housing, cultural practices, and economic opportunities in any decision to allow the continued occupation and use - or abuse - of our 'āina?

As lease negotiations may be imminent, shouldn't the public first know what these public lands and sacred spaces are actually worth? Shouldn't we try to understand what we may be taking away from our children and future generations before we even entertain the continued military use of these lands? These are the reasonable but critical questions that these resolutions will help us find answers to - and that must be answered, before any potential renewal of military leases of our 'āina.

I urge you to pass HCR207 and HR199, and in any case, to give every committee member the chance to voice their individual support or opposition to these measures in a roll call vote.

Mahalo,

Kristen Young
Honolulu, HI 96813

HCR-207

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 7:20:04 PM

Testimony for PBS on 3/21/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Malia Marquez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Kākou,

The DLNR has a kuleana to conduct a comprehensive economic analysis of ALL military leased lands. We need transparency from ALL parties, US military, DLNR and stakeholders as to what will happen to our leased lands. There should be absolutely NO lease negotiations behind closed doors. We, the stakeholders should be able to have a say as to what happens to OUR 30,000 acres of 'āina that has been damaged and desecrated by the US military. Please support HCR 207. Kanaka deserve this much.

Mahalo,

Malia Marquez

HCR-207

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 7:23:19 PM

Testimony for PBS on 3/21/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Debra M Javar	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully SUPPORT hcr207.

Negotiations for the military to lease our lands must Not be held behind our backs.

Need a comprehensive analysis of the damage done to our lands by the military bombing and pollution.

Need comprehensive analysis of the amount of damage done to our Kanaka Ma'oli from being forcibly separated from our sacred lands for generations because of these leases.

We need comprehensive assessment of financial losses resulting from leasing thousands of acres to the military for only \$1 over the course of more than half a century.

Mahalo,

Debra M Javar

Kona, Hawai'i

HCR-207

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 8:09:07 PM

Testimony for PBS on 3/21/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shannon	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha My name is Shannon Watson and I am writing to express my full support for House Concurrent Resolution 207. This Bill promotes prudent land management and thorough analysis specifically regarding military operations in Hawaii. By exercising caution and careful consideration we can safeguard our land and communities.

HCR-207

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 8:39:07 PM

Testimony for PBS on 3/21/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Noel Shaw	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please pass this house resolution and commit to understanding how massive of a negative impact the military's presence here in Hawai'i has caused. This is important for the public and leadership to being to be able to grasp what we've lossed thus far and what we have to gain in no longer maintaining a relationship with an entity that disregards care of our natural resources and puts our community at risk because of it.

HCR-207

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 8:48:20 PM

Testimony for PBS on 3/21/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kimmer Horsen	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Aloha Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Iwamoto, and Members of the Public Safety Committee,

I strongly support HCR207/HR199, which seek critical information the public deserves to know, to truly assess the renewal of military leases for tens of thousands of acres of public trust and stolen Hawaiian lands - and what they may cost our children and future generations. **I urge you to pass these measures, and please ensure that any decisionmaking on these resolutions occurs with a roll call vote by each committee member.**

The Department of Defense and the state Department of Land and Natural Resources have said that the "days of \$1 lease rent are over," in discussions regarding the renewal of military leases of public lands - including sacred spaces - all stolen from the Hawaiian Kingdom, and held in trust for the benefit of native Hawaiians and the public. But what do they think these leases are truly worth? More importantly, how will we, the people of Hawai'i, ensure we don't sell out our future generations' food security, housing, cultural practices, and economic opportunities in any decision to allow the continued occupation and use - or abuse - of our 'āina?

As lease negotiations may be imminent, shouldn't the public first know what these public lands and sacred spaces are actually worth? Shouldn't we try to understand what we may be taking away from our children and future generations before we even entertain the continued military use of these lands? These are the reasonable but critical questions that these resolutions will help us find answers to - and that must be answered, before any potential renewal of military leases of our 'āina.

I urge you to pass HCR207 and HR199, and in any case, to give every committee member the chance to voice their individual support or opposition to these measures in a roll call vote.

Kimmer Horsen
Big Mahalo !!!

HCR-207

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 8:58:33 PM

Testimony for PBS on 3/21/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Makana	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Katoo lahui!

HCR-207

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 9:10:55 PM

Testimony for PBS on 3/21/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ronnie K. Kikala	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I Ronnie Keoni Kīkala am writing this to express my full support of HCR 207. This bill promotes prudent land management and thorough analysis, specifically regarding military operations in Hawai‘i by exercising caution and careful consideration, we can safeguard the interest of our lands and communities.

HCR-207

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 9:29:05 PM

Testimony for PBS on 3/21/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jonah Cummings (Hilina'i)	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha on behalf of the queens court I Hilina'i is in support of HCR207.

HCR-207

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 10:27:26 PM

Testimony for PBS on 3/21/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Raquel Runnels	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

My name is Raquel Runnels, I am of Kānaka Maoli ancestry and I am a resident of Wahiawā. I have lived in here most of my life, since my freshman year of high school. I graduated from Leilehua in '06. Unfortunately most of my memories of high school are not of laughs or cheerful moments with my peers but of occasionally sitting in a darkened classroom (due to a power outage) and hearing bombs being tested, near in the forestry area behind the school. I remember how the buildings trembled and portables shook. These are from bombs that the US military use to test and train its troops in preparation for assaults, such as the one we have witnessed in Gaza, Yemen and Syria.

There has been documented encounters of US military's activities in Hawai'i of the usage of various chemicals over the years including: depleted uranium in the 1960's, chemical weapons, PFAS, and the use of white phosphorus. Not to mention the elevated levels of petroleum compounds in Military neighborhoods, and let me not fail to mention the US military covering up their negligence for the Navy's Red Hill Fuel Storage Tank spills that contaminated Oahu's water and the lack of attempt to clean it up.

While lands are being occupied and training exercises are being conducted it also leave a harmful impression on our lands and imposes a threat on our indigenous communities. These military exercises and contamination are not only harmful to the residents of Hawai'i but it also contributes to the extinction of native species that cannot be found elsewhere and prohibiting indigenous populations from being able to access their own resources. Therefore, it seems clear that during their tenure its only worked for their benefits and not for the people and it seems clear that the US military do not have the capacity to not only care for civilians but also our lands and waters too. Basic fundamentals that our people wishes to uphold, we've also witnessed the lack of moral standards and principles to not only our indigenous community but all indigenous nations globally.

The US Military has occupied thousands of acres of Hawaiian land for a pittance of \$1USD. What is disturbing is how cheap the military was able to obtain these lands while natives struggle to find decent homes to live in or even own property to call their own. These are just some of the factors forcibly displacing Native Hawaiians from the lands of their ancestors. My siblings, along with my sister's children, are part of the growing diaspora.

These are just a few reasons why I am testifying my strong opposition on renewing the land lease to the US military and stating in strong and urgent support of HCR 207, calling for DLNR to conduct a comprehensive analysis of all military leased lands.

‘O au iho nō me ka ‘oia‘i‘o (undersigning with sincerity),

Raquel S. Runnels

HCR-207

Submitted on: 3/20/2025 10:46:54 PM

Testimony for PBS on 3/21/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elizabeth J. Rago	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Elizabeth J. Rago, a resident of Kahuku. I'm in support of this bill and urge the committee to please pass it. I'm asking in good faith that an audit be conducted to ensure the safety of my Kahuku community. Thank you

Elizabeth J. Rago

HCR-207

Submitted on: 3/21/2025 2:40:24 AM

Testimony for PBS on 3/21/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kelsie	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Iwamoto, and Members of the Public Safety Committee,

I strongly support HCR207/HR199, which seek critical information the public deserves to know, to truly assess the renewal of military leases for tens of thousands of acres of public trust and stolen Hawaiian lands - and what they may cost our children and future generations. **I urge you to pass these measures, and please ensure that any decisionmaking on these resolutions occurs with a roll call vote by each committee member.**

The Department of Defense and the state Department of Land and Natural Resources have said that the "days of \$1 lease rent are over," in discussions regarding the renewal of military leases of public lands - including sacred spaces - all stolen from the Hawaiian Kingdom, and held in trust for the benefit of native Hawaiians and the public. But what do they think these leases are truly worth? More importantly, how will we, the people of Hawai'i, ensure we don't sell out our future generations' food security, housing, cultural practices, and economic opportunities in any decision to allow the continued occupation and use - or abuse - of our 'āina?

As lease negotiations may be imminent, shouldn't the public first know what these public lands and sacred spaces are actually worth? Shouldn't we try to understand what we may be taking away from our children and future generations before we even entertain the continued military use of these lands? These are the reasonable but critical questions that these resolutions will help us find answers to - and that must be answered, before any potential renewal of military leases of our 'āina.

I urge you to pass HCR207 and HR199, and in any case, to give every committee member the chance to voice their individual support or opposition to these measures in a roll call vote.

Thank you.

HCR-207

Submitted on: 3/21/2025 6:30:43 AM

Testimony for PBS on 3/21/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jennifer Lum	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support HCR207. With the state of the nation and its disregard for all things indigenous and its destruction of lands belonging to it people, we need to put a stop to what they are doing to our land.

Our state motto is "*Ua Mau ke Ea o ka 'Āina i ka Pono*". We are all stewards of this land. We need to take back our land because the military are not taking proper care of this land.

Another meaning is the SOVEREIGNTY of this nation... Hawai'i is under occupation, and if the leases are extended, we will be complicit in the occupation. These lands belong to the people of Hawai'i.

Once again I urge you to support HCR207.

Mahalo,

Jennifer Lum, 'Ewa Beach

HCR-207

Submitted on: 3/21/2025 6:34:01 AM

Testimony for PBS on 3/21/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tevita O. Kaili	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony Urging the Department of Land and Natural Resources to Conduct a Comprehensive Economic Analysis of All Military-Leased Lands

Aloha mai kākou,

My name is Dr. Tēvita O. Ka‘ili. I am originally from Tonga and currently reside in Kahuku, where I have lived for over 10 years. I am a professor of anthropology and cultural sustainability at Brigham Young University–Hawai‘i.

As a resident of Kahuku, I strongly urge the Department of Land and Natural Resources to conduct a comprehensive economic analysis of all military-leased lands in Hawai‘i. Such an analysis must include the costs of environmental degradation, the long-term impacts on public health, the desecration of sacred sites, the destruction of ecosystems, and the loss of cultural heritage. This is a necessary and responsible step before any lease renewal is even considered.

Specifically, I vehemently oppose the renewal of the military lease on the Kahuku Training Area (KTA). According to Hawaiian mo‘olelo, Kahuku was once an ‘āina lewa—a floating land—until our ancestor Maui anchored it securely to Ko‘olaupoko using sennit cordage (‘aha) and two massive hooks: Pōlou and Kalou. These hooks were placed in the Pōlou Pond in Kahuku and the Kalou Pond in Waiale‘e. Notably, the Pōlou pond held a Kanaloa stone, and the Kalou pond was home to a Kāne stone (McAllister, 1933, *Archaeology of Oahu*, p. 152, 155). These ponds and their surrounding waters are sacred, not just to my Moana (Oceanian) ancestors but to the deified ancestors Kāne and Kanaloa as well.

The Cultural Impact Assessment (CIA) for the KTA project area identified six freshwater sources (Appendix B. 4.1.1.1). Two of these—Waiale‘e and Pahipahi‘ālua streams—flow directly into Kalou Pond, one of the sacred anchoring sites of Kahuku. When it rains, runoff from KTA flows into this pond, raising serious concerns about contamination and long-term environmental harm.

As a kia‘i of the ‘āina and the sacred waters created by Kāne and Kanaloa, I cannot support the continuation of military use that threatens to desecrate and pollute these life-giving wai. We have already witnessed the catastrophic poisoning of wai at Kapūkākā (Red Hill). We must not allow a repeat of this hewa in Kahuku.

Moreover, the U.S. Military has shown a consistent pattern of environmental negligence and cultural disregard. It has not been a good steward, nor has it returned any of the lands it occupies in a healthy or restored state. The military remains an illegal occupier of Hawaiian lands, its presence rooted in the overthrow of the Hawaiian Kingdom. Activities such as RIMPAC further desecrate Hawai‘i’s ecosystems, endanger marine life, and violate the sanctity of our ancestral lands and waters.

It is particularly appalling that sacred ‘āina such as Kahuku, Mākua, Kawaihoa-Poamoho, and Pōhakuloa are used to train soldiers for foreign wars. This militarization contributes to ecocide (destruction of the natural world), ethnocide (erasure of Indigenous culture), and prepares for genocide, as evidenced in global crises like the one facing Indigenous Palestinians today. This is hewa loa—a grave wrongdoing.

Therefore, I call upon DLNR to do the right thing:

1. Conduct a comprehensive economic analysis of all military-leased lands, including the ecological, cultural, and social costs;
2. Hold the military accountable for the environmental and cultural damage already caused; and
3. Begin the process of restoring these sacred lands to the rightful stewards—the Kānaka ‘Ōiwi.

Mahalo nui for considering my testimony.

Tēvita O. Ka‘ili, PhD

Resident of Kahuku, Ko‘olaupua, O‘ahu

HCR-207

Submitted on: 3/21/2025 6:41:59 AM

Testimony for PBS on 3/21/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lynda Williams	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for House Resolution 199 and House Concurrent Resolution 207, which urge the Department of Land and Natural Resources to conduct a comprehensive economic analysis of all military-leased lands in Hawaii.

These resolutions are crucial for the following reasons:

1. Economic Assessment: Evaluating lost economic opportunities and potential revenues ensures that Hawaii's public land trust is managed effectively for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including Native Hawaiians and all citizens of the state.
2. Environmental Responsibility: Identifying and addressing environmental degradation resulting from military use, such as unexploded ordnance and contamination, is essential for the health and safety of our communities.
3. Transparency and Public Engagement: Establishing a formal public process for lease negotiations promotes transparency and allows community members to have a voice in decisions affecting public lands.

I respectfully urge the committee to adopt these resolutions to ensure responsible stewardship of Hawaii's lands and resources.

Sincerely,

lynda williams

Hilo

HCR-207

Submitted on: 3/21/2025 7:36:42 AM

Testimony for PBS on 3/21/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dianne Deauna	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HCR207 and HR199. I urge DLNR to conduct a comprehensive economic analysis of all Military-leased lands, including the impacts of military presence, and dollar amounts for remediation and cleanup purposes after decades of bombing and pollution.

HCR-207

Submitted on: 3/21/2025 7:40:04 AM

Testimony for PBS on 3/21/2025 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

negotiations for new leases for roughly 30k acres should not happen in secret! we need an analyses of the damage done to kanaka maoli because of separation from our sacred land. we demand an accounting of the financial loss due to the \$1 lease to the military for more than a half century. we call for an assessment of the cost of clean up after decades of bombing and pollution. vote yes! please hear the native peoples who are the most effective guardians of the land and biodiversity.

HCR-207

Submitted on: 3/21/2025 8:27:17 AM

Testimony for PBS on 3/21/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
cheryl burghardt	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Committee members,

I am in STRONG SUPPORT of HCR 207 and HR 199 as it charts a responsible path forward—grounded in transparency, data, and community involvement. It ensures decisions made today will not compromise the future of our ‘āina, our lāhui, and our keiki. We know that this is a long road as seen by the US military’s consistent neglect of the lands leased, even ignoring the laws of the land as stated by the Hawai‘i Supreme court. We can no longer let things continue as they have been, we must take a stand for now and the future.