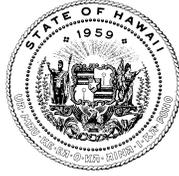


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII
*Ke Kia'āina o ka Moku'āina 'o
Hawai'i*

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



KALI WATSON
CHAIRPERSON, HHC
Ka Luna Ho'okele

KATIE L. LAMBERT
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Ka Hope Luna Ho'okele

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

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TESTIMONY OF KALI WATSON, CHAIR
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
HEARING ON FEBRUARY 4, 2025 AT 1:15PM IN CR 224

SB 1408, RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION ACT

February 3, 2025

Aloha Chair Richards, Vice Chair San Buenaventura, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) **strongly supports** this bill which confirms that Act 130, Session Laws of Hawaii 2024, shall take effect on either the date of the Secretary of the Interior's notification letter to the Congressional Committee Chairpersons that this Act meets none of the criteria in title 43 Code of Federal Regulations section 48.20, or on the date that the United States Congress approval becomes law.

DHHL appreciates that Act 130 was signed into law in 2024. However, DHHL recognizes that Section 4 of Act 130, SLH 2024, did not accurately note the necessary approval process for proper amendment of the HHCA. SB1408 will correct this error noted in Section 4 of Act 130, SLH 2024. This legislative proposal was approved by the Hawaiian Homes Commission and included in the Governor's Administrative Package.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.