HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE, 2010 STATE OF HAWAII

H.C.R. NO. 118

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS TO ADOPT AND IMPLEMENT NEW ADMINISTRATIVE RULES TO PROHIBIT A BENEFICIARY FROM APPLYING FOR A HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS LEASE IF THE PERSON ALREADY RECEIVED A LEASE AWARD AND SOLD, UNLESS THERE ARE COMPELLING OR PERSUASIVE REASONS FOR SELLING THE LEASE.

WHEREAS, the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1920 was
signed into law by Congress for the purpose of rehabilitation of
native Hawaiians through land stewardship and setting aside
approximately two hundred thousand acres of land; and

6 WHEREAS, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands was created 7 upon statehood to execute the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 8 1920, as amended, with a mission to manage the Hawaiian home 9 lands trust effectively and to develop and deliver lands to 10 native Hawaiians; and

WHEREAS, native Hawaiians may apply for up to two separateleases including residential, agricultural, or pastoral; and

15 WHEREAS, while there are nine thousand five hundred native 16 Hawaiians holding Department of Hawaiian Home Land leases, more 17 than twenty-four thousand native Hawaiian applicants are 18 awaiting a lease award; and

20 WHEREAS, there are approximately thirty-five thousand more 21 native Hawaiians who are eligible for a Department of Hawaiian 22 Home Lands lease; and 23

24 WHEREAS, the administrative rules adopted by the Department 25 of Hawaiian Home Lands do not prohibit lessees from selling 26 their leases, so long as the buyer of the lease is at least 27 fifty per cent native Hawaiian; and 28



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WHEREAS, this practice essentially enables the purchaser to 1 automatically move to the top of the waiting list, skipping over 2 3 hundreds or thousands of other applicants on the list; and 4 WHEREAS, a lessee who decides to sell their lease has 5 6 chosen their avenue of "rehabilitation"; and 7 WHEREAS, given the scope of eligible beneficiaries still 8 9 waiting for a lease award, it is reasonable for the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to adopt and implement administrative 10 rules prohibiting beneficiaries from applying for similar leases 11 if the beneficiary has already received a lease award and 12 subsequently sold the lease; now, therefore, 13 14 15 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session 16 of 2010, the Senate concurring, that the Legislature urges the 17 Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to adopt and implement 18 administrative rules to prohibit a beneficiary from applying for 19 a lease if the beneficiary has already received a lease award 20 and subsequently sold the lease, unless there are compelling 21 reasons for selling the lease; and 22 23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this 24 25 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson and members of the Hawaiian Homes Commission. 26 27 28 Mele Canoll 29 OFFERED BY:

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