

Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs P. O. Box 1135 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96807

TESTIMONY OF LEIMOMI KHAN, PRESIDENT IN SUPPORT OF

HR 66, 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

COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Representative Mele Carroll, Chair Representative Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Wednesday, March 17, 2010, 10:00 a.m., Conference Room 329

Aloha Chairperson Carroll, Vice Chairperson Shimabukuro, and members of the Committee on Hawaiian Affairs,

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of HR 66, 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

The Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs passed resolution 09-20, same subject as HR 66 at its convention last year. Many civic club members are also homesteaders or eligible for homesteads. Members have observed that there are some beneficiaries who have had benefit of several awards in their lifetime before other beneficiaries who are on the wait list. They also observe that there are approximately 25,000 on the wait list and each month an average of 100 are being added. Accordingly, to enable opportunities for those who have not had an award, the AHCC recommends that DHHL adopt and implement new Administrative Rules to prohibit a beneficiary from applying for a lease if he/she has already received a lease award and sold, unless there are compelling or persuasive reasons for selling the lease, such as illness requiring move to another island to receive better health care.

A copy of the AHCC resolution was provided to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and to key members of the legislature. The DHHL is currently reviewing its Administrative Rules, thus we encourage passage of HR 66.

About the AHCC

The Association is a growing national confederation of fifty-eight Hawaiian Civic Clubs, located throughout the State of Hawai'i and in the States of Alaska, California, Colorado, Illinois, Nevada, Utah, Virginia, Washington State, Tennessee, and Texas. It initiates and works to support actions that enhance the civic, economic, educational, health and social welfare of our communities, and in particular, the culture and welfare of the Native Hawaiian community.