LINDA LINGLE GOVERNOR STATE OF HAWAI'I





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LATE TESTIMONY

COMMENTS PROVIDED BY KAULANA H. R. PARK, CHAIRMAN HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION
BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

ON HCR118/ HR66 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

March 17, 2010

Chair Carroll, Vice-Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands supports the intent of HCR118/HR66 and is currently in the process of addressing the matter of the sale of leases, and potential consequences thereof, through amendments to our administrative rules.

In 2006, DHHL held eight consultation meetings in Hawaiian homestead areas across the state to better understand concerns related to the transfer of a homestead lease from one beneficiary to another for remuneration. An initial report was drafted on August 19, 2007 summarizing the communities' concerns and proposing a new policy governing the transfer of leases. DHHL intends to incorporate these

DHHL Comments on HCR118/HR66 House Committee On Hawaiian Affairs March 17, 2010 Page 2

sentiments as it continues beneficiary consultation through our administrative rule revision process.

We believe the passage of these resolutions may disrupt the ongoing consultation process, and may limit the opportunity for DHHL's beneficiaries to determine the best solution for this issue.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.