TESTIMONY SB 1141



TESTIMONY OF THE STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE, 2009

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

S.B. NO. 1141, RELATING TO PUBLIC LANDS.

BEFORE THE:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AGRICULTURE AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

DATE:

Friday, February 6, 2009 TIME: 2:45 PM

LOCATION:

State Capitol, Room 229

TESTIFIER(S):

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY. For more information, contact Randall Ishikawa, Deputy Attorney General, at 587-2992

Chair Hee and Members of the Committee:

Article XI, section 5 of the Hawaii Constitution states that "The legislative power over the lands owned by or under the control of the State and its political subdivisions shall be exercised only by general laws . . ." Given this directive, the legislative directive to sell the specific parcels at Sand Island would be unconstitutional.



STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION 869 PUNCHBOWL STREET HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

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IN REPLY REFER TO:

February 6, 2009

TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SENATE BILL NO. 1141, RELATING TO PUBLIC LANDS.

COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AGRICULTURE, AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Senate Bill No. 1141 would require the Department of Land and Natural Resources to offer the fee title for sale to the holders of state leases on Sand Island. Amendments should be made to the bill to clearly exclude public lands on Sand Island which are under executive orders to the Department of Transportation (DOT) for maritime purposes. With the approval of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, leases are also issued by the DOT under Chapter 171, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for business purposes on Sand Island. To avoid any confusion, the specific land areas subject to this bill should be specifically identified by tax map keys or subdivision reference.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

TESTIMONY SB 1141 (END)