HB 1015,

HD1



DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

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Statement of JESSE K. SOUKI

Interim Director, Office of Planning Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT AND

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Tuesday, March 1, 2011 2:45 PM State Capitol, Conference Room 225

> in consideration of HB 1015, HD1

RELATING TO MAKING AN EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION OUT OF THE BROWNFIELDS CLEANUP REVOLVING LOAN FUND.

Chairs Gabbard and Galuteria, Vice Chairs English and Ryan, and Members of the Senate Committees on Energy and Environment and Hawaiian Affairs.

HB 1015, HD1, requests that the Legislature make an emergency appropriation out of the Brownfields Cleanup Revolving Loan Fund to raise the expenditure ceiling from the existing \$1,000,000 ceiling to a total of \$2,000,000 so that federal funds can be disbursed to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands before the federal grant terminates at the end of the current fiscal year 2010 – 2011. No state funds are involved.

Your committees passed the companion Senate measure, SB 1242 on February 15, 2011.

The Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT) received a federal grant of \$2,000,000 from the Environmental Protection Agency for a brownfields cleanup revolving loan program to clean up contaminated sites. Funds under this grant must be disbursed by the end of the current fiscal year or they will be lost.

DBEDT executed a no-interest loan to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) to clean up a contaminated site in Kapolei. The amount of funds that remain to be disbursed exceeds the existing expenditure ceiling of \$1,000,000. Therefore, an appropriation increase to \$2,000,000 is needed before the end of this fiscal year to allow DBEDT to fulfill its loan contract with DHHL and meet its requirements under the federal grant. The general public and DHHL waiting list beneficiaries will benefit from the cleanup of the contaminated site.

We strongly urge your support for this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.



ALBERT "ALAPAKI" NAHALE-A CHAIRMAN HAWAII AN HOMES COMMISSION

> ROBERT J. HALL DEPUTY TO THE CHAIRMAN

STATE OF HAWAI'I DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

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TESTIMONY OF ALAPAKI NAHALE-A, CHAIRMAN

HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT &

HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS ON

HB 1015 HD 1, MAKING AN EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION OUT OF THE BROWNFIELDS CLEANUP REVOLVING LOAN FUND

March 1, 2011

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Chair Galuteria and Members of the Committees:

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) supports this measure as it impacts our brownfield cleanup in Kapolei. This project is estimated to cost between \$1 million and \$2 million and is scheduled to begin this summer. Completion of this project will support the development of approximately 1,000 residential homestead lots as well as other projects like the Salvation Army Kroc Center.

We understand that this emergency appropriation does not require or involve any state funds, and if the federal grant dollars are not expended by June 30, 2011, they will be lost. We respectfully ask that your committees pass this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.