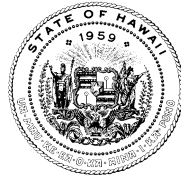


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII

JOSH GREEN
LT. GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII



WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION

TYLER I. GOMES
DEPUTY TO THE CHAIRMAN

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS**

P. O. BOX 1879
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

TESTIMONY OF WILLIAM J. AILA, JR, CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS & HOUSING
HEARING ON MARCH 3, 2020 AT 1:45PM IN CR 016

**SCR 2/SR 2 STRONGLY URGING THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF
HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS
TO ALLOW HAWAIIAN HOMESTEADS TO BE DIRECT RECIPIENTS OF FEDERAL
NATIVE HAWAIIAN HOUSING BLOCK GRANTS UNDER THE NATIVE AMERICAN
HOUSING ASSISTANCE AND SELF-DETERMINATION ACT**

March 2, 2020

Aloha Chair Shimabukuro, Chair Chang, and members of the Committees:

The Department of Hawaiian Home lands (DHHL) submits comments on these resolutions strongly urging the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the United States Congress to allow Hawaiian homesteads to be direct recipients of federal Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grants (NHHBG) under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA). DHHL appreciates the first be it resolved clause urging HUD and Congress to provide additional federal funds for the NHHBG under NAHASDA. However, the resolutions proposal to allow individual Hawaiian homesteads to be direct recipients of NHHBG wouldn't necessarily result in expediting the utilization of these funds or expand affordable housing opportunities for low-income families and individuals living on, or desiring to live on Hawaiian homesteads.

Utilization of NHHBG under NAHASDA requires strict compliance with many federal regulations and requirements including but not limited to eligible affordable housing activities in accordance with section 810 of NAHASDA and consistent with the Native Hawaiian Housing Plan as required under section 803 of NAHASDA, labor standards per section 805 of NAHASDA, environmental review as provided in section 806 of NAHASDA, annual performance reports as stipulated in sections 819 and 820 of NAHASDA, and quarterly federal financial reports. These requirements are met by a number of DHHL staff with specific expertise in our fiscal, land development division, and planning office beyond the staff specifically assigned to NAHASDA. It is important to note that DHHL has in the past solicited project and program proposals from eligible entities for NAHASDA funding through the community grant program. The expenditure of funds under this program were smaller in amount and at a slower rate.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.

Council Chair
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
Tasha Kama

Councilmembers
Riki Hokama
Kelly Takaya King
Michael J. Molina
Tamara Paltin
Shane M. Sinenci
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura



Director of Council Services
Traci N. T. Fujita, Esq.

COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.MauiCounty.us

March 2, 2020

TO: The Honorable Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

The Honorable Stanley Chang, Chair
Senate Committee on Housing

FROM: Alice L. Lee
Council Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "AL", is written over the name "Alice L. Lee".

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF MARCH 3, 2020; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SCR 2, STRONGLY URGING THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ALLOW HAWAIIAN HOMESTEADS TO BE DIRECT RECIPIENTS OF FEDERAL NATIVE HAWAIIAN HOUSING BLOCK GRANTS UNDER THE NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING ASSISTANCE AND SELF-DETERMINATION ACT**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important measure. The purpose of this resolution is to strongly urge the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Congress of the United States to designate individual Hawaiian homesteads as direct recipients of Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grants.

This measure is in the Maui County's Legislative Package; therefore, I offer this testimony on behalf of the Council.

The Maui County Council supports this measure for the following reasons:

1. Hawai'i is experiencing a critical affordable-housing shortage and more funding is needed to support infrastructure development, home construction and rehabilitation programs, direct loans, and housing subsidies for Native Hawaiian families.
2. Designating individual Hawaiian homesteads in Hawaii to be direct recipients of Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grants, in addition to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, could expedite the effective use of these funds and expand affordable-housing opportunities for low-income families and individuals living on, or desiring to live on, Hawaiian homesteads.

For the foregoing reasons, the Maui County Council **supports** this measure.

March 3, 2020

Senate Committee On Hawaiian Affairs
Chair Maile S.L. Shimabukuro,
Vice Chair Kaiali'i Kahele
Members of the Committee

Re: S.C.R. No. 2 and SR 2

STRONGLY URGING THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ALLOW HAWAIIAN HOMESTEADS TO BE DIRECT RECIPIENTS OF FEDERAL NATIVE HAWAIIAN HOUSING BLOCK GRANTS UNDER THE NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING ASSISTANCE AND SELF-DETERMINATION ACT.

Aloha Chair Shimabukuro, Vice Chair Kahele and Members of the Committee,

I'm Homelani Schaedel, a beneficiary residing at Malu'ōhai, a homestead leader in the Kapolei region, and an advocate for the Hawaiian Home Lands Trust.

I welcome all opportunities to support funding for the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) that will provide funds to place applicants on the Waitlist onto our trust lands in a timely manner; that is the kuleana of DHHL.

I'm not convinced diverting already limited Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA) funding to Hawaiian homesteads could "expedite the effective utilization of these funds and expand affordable housing opportunities..." on the contrary, "allowing Hawaiian homesteads to be direct recipients" would dilute resources and diminish the effectiveness of (NAHASDA).

Based on the language in this resolution, the questions I have are:

1. Does this committee know, of the 50 or more Hawaiian homesteads statewide who would qualify under this resolution; have the capacity, resources, funding, or project that could meet NAHASDA's guidelines, its' fund management and reporting requirements?

2. Shouldn't a potential Hawaiian homestead recipient meet the criteria of a "democratically-elected Hawaiian homestead community self-governance organization as defined in Section 201.6 of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1920, as amended? (HHCA)

3. Or, in the very least be required to provide evidence of a completed housing or community project they developed and are successfully maintaining in their homestead?

The reason I ask these questions is that, as president of Malu'ōhai Residents' Association while we meet the criteria under Section 201.6 of the HHCA; we do not have the capacity to develop housing, nor would we want to, and I dare say many of our homestead associations would agree.

I truly do not wish to offend any of the leaders of our Hawaiian homestead associations or organizations, but I can think of only a handful that could potentially be a NAHASDA recipient.

I urge you to consider amending this resolution to delete all reference to “designating or designate individual Hawaiian homesteads as direct recipients of Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grants”.

I believe the sole purpose of this resolution is to urge the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Congress of the United States to provide additional federal funds for Native Housing Block Grants under NAHASDA. If amended, I would strongly support this resolution.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide my testimony.

SCR-2

Submitted on: 3/3/2020 12:56:20 PM

Testimony for HWN on 3/3/2020 1:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Craig Bo Kahui	Testifying for Villages of Laiopua and Laiopua Community Development Corp	Support	Yes

Comments:

The Senate

Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair

Senator Kaiali'i Kahele, Vice Chair

Committee on Housing

Senator Stanley Chang, Chair

Senator Dru Mamo Kanuha, Vice Chair

Senate Concurrent Resolution: SCR2

Tuesday, March 3, 2020

Conference Room 016, State Capitol

Introduction:

Aloha all, my name is Sarah L. Chee. I am a SW student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. I am submitting testimony in support of SCR2.

Content:

I support SCR2 because I am the proud local haole mother of two beautiful Kanaka Maoli na keiki wahine. I feel it is my duty and responsibility to support this resolution for my children and their father. This resolution holds the federal government to their promises of supporting the indigenous peoples of these islands. How many more indigenous peoples have to suffer at the hands of political powers? Haven't the indigenous peoples of the continental United States and Hawaii given enough to our government?

Closing:

Please see that this resolution passes so that the lands that once belonged to the Hawaiians goes back to them. Please see that the money being allocated to the Department of Hawaiian Homelands is being used as it should. My children deserve to see their ancestors at peace, living and thriving on kanaka lands that once belonged to them. Again, I am submitting this testimony to support SCR2.

Sarah L. Chee

P.O.Box 25871 Honolulu, Hawaii 96825

SCR-2

Submitted on: 2/27/2020 6:07:28 PM

Testimony for HWN on 3/3/2020 1:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sharlene Chun Lum	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SCR-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2020 11:55:32 AM

Testimony for HWN on 3/3/2020 1:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
kenneth kudo	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Strongly oppose. Native Hawaiians are not an indigenous tribe. They are aboriginal colonists who migrated to Hawaii, conquered, and stole the lands of the indigenous people already here.

SCR-2

Submitted on: 2/29/2020 2:47:47 AM

Testimony for HWN on 3/3/2020 1:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
carol lee kamekona	Individual	Support	No

Comments: