

SCR185 SD1

RECOGNIZING THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF THE HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION ACT OF 1920, AS AMENDED Ke Kōmike Hale o ka Hoʻokolokolo a me ke Kuleana Hawaiʻi House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

<u>'Apelila 5, 2021</u>	1:00 p.m	n. Lumi 325

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) <u>SUPPORTS</u> SCR185 SD1, which recognizes the centennial celebration of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act (HHCA).

On this centennial anniversary of the enactment of the HHCA, OHA recognizes and appreciates the core, culturally-based foundation of the HHCA, as one rooted in aloha 'āina. **The HHCA's fundamental purpose of returning Native Hawaiians to the land as a means of rehabilitating the Native Hawaiian people is a mission that OHA continues to value and support today**. Toward this end, OHA works in partnership with the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) on a number of advocacy, outreach, and beneficiary support initiatives, and has also made a 30-year, \$3 million per year commitment to support DHHL's debt service obligations. In recognizing the great accomplishments made over the last one hundred years since the enactment of the HHCA in the fulfillment of its mission, OHA also notes that there is also much work to be done. OHA remains committed to working in partnership with DHHL to rehabilitate and meet the needs of our shared beneficiaries.

Accordingly, OHA urges the Committee to **PASS** SCR185 SD1. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

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 HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS HEARING ON APRIL 5, 2021 AT 2:00PM VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

SCR 185, SD1, RECOGNIZING THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF THE HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION ACT OF 1920, AS AMENDED

April 5, 2021

Aloha Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, and members of the Committee:

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) submits testimony in strong support of this resolution recognizing the Centennial Celebration of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1920, as amended (HHCA). The Hawaiian Homes Commission (HHC) adopted Resolution No. 303 recognizing the Centennial Celebration of the HHCA at the Commission meeting in March last year. Resolution No. 303 provides the legislative history of the HHCA signed on July 9, 1921 and noted that Prince Jonah Kūhiō Kalaniana'ole (Prince Kūhiō) as a delegate to the United States Congress, was not a voting member of that body. Resolution No. 303 recognized the Centennial Celebration of the HHCA to commence on July 9, 2021 thru June 8, 2022.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.