

THE SENATE
KA 'AHA KENEKOA

THE THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2024

[COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS](#)

Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Chair
Senator Kurt Fevella, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Tuesday, January 30, 2024
TIME: 1:00 PM
PLACE: Conference Room 224 & Videoconference
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

PHOTO ID REQUIRED FOR ENTRANCE TO THE STATE CAPITOL
BUILDING HOURS: 7AM TO 5PM, MONDAY - FRIDAY

The Legislature is accepting written, videoconference, and in-person testimony at public hearings.
A live stream of all Senate Standing Committee meetings will be available on the [Senate YouTube Channel](#).

A G E N D A

[SB 2921](#)

[Status &
Testimony](#)

RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS.
Amends the appropriation of Act 279, SLH 2022, to conform its lapsing provision by 1 year, to conform to constitutional limitations. Appropriates moneys to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands for fiscal year 2024-2025 to give practical effect to the legislative intent behind Act 279. Declares that the general fund expenditure ceiling will be exceeded.

HWN, WAM/JDC

[SB 2640](#)

[Status &
Testimony](#)

RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION ACT.
Amends the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act to authorize the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to provide cash awards to beneficiaries on the waitlist in lieu of a lease. Requires the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to remove those beneficiaries from the waitlist.

HWN, WAM/JDC

[SB 2435](#)

[Status &
Testimony](#)

RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS.
Authorizes the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to administer a Lease Award Program for beneficiaries on the homestead lease waiting list who are sixty years old or older or terminally ill, under certain conditions. Requires the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to adopt rules by a certain date.

HWN, JDC/WAM

<p><u>SB 2594</u></p> <p><u>Status & Testimony</u></p>	<p>RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS.</p> <p>Authorizes qualified successors of beneficiaries on the waiting list who died before receiving a lease to file a claim for a lease award within four years of the effective date. Requires the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to adopt rules by a certain date.</p>	<p>HWN, JDC/WAM</p>
<p><u>SB 2646</u></p> <p><u>Status & Testimony</u></p>	<p>RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION ACT.</p> <p>Increases the loan limit for direct loans provided by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to 75% of the maximum single residence loan amount allowed in Hawaii by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's Federal Housing Administration, instead of 50%, as currently outlined in section 215 of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920, as amended. Takes effect on either the date of the Secretary of the Interior's notification that congressional approval of this Act is unnecessary, or on the date of consent by the United States Congress.</p>	<p>HWN, JDC/WAM</p>
<p><u>SB 2647</u></p> <p><u>Status & Testimony</u></p>	<p>RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION ACT.</p> <p>Increases the allowable loan term for direct loans provided by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to forty years, instead of thirty years, as currently outlined in section 215 of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920, as amended. Takes effect on either the date of the Secretary of the Interior's notification that congressional approval of this Act is unnecessary, or on the date of consent by the United States Congress.</p>	<p>HWN, JDC/WAM</p>
<p><u>SB 2780</u></p> <p><u>Status & Testimony</u></p>	<p>RELATING TO NATIVE HAWAIIAN BENEFICIARIES.</p> <p>Requires the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to complete an assessment and report on the feasibility of digitizing its applicant, beneficiary, and lessee records and creating an interactive digital database software program. Requires the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to submit a report to the Legislature by 7/1/2025. Makes an appropriation.</p>	<p>HWN, WAM</p>
<p><u>SB 2655</u></p> <p><u>Status & Testimony</u></p>	<p>RELATING TO THE HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION.</p> <p>Allows the Hawaiian Homes Commission to retain independent legal counsel. Authorizes the Hawaiian Homes Commission to use the services of the Attorney General as needed. Provides that funds owed to independent legal counsel shall be paid by the Hawaiian Homes Commission with general funds appropriated by the legislature. Declares that the appropriation exceeds the state general fund expenditure ceiling for 2024-2025. Appropriates moneys.</p>	<p>HWN, JDC/WAM</p>

Decision Making to follow, if time permits.

All testimony received by the Hawai'i Senate is posted on the Hawai'i Legislature's website, which is accessible to the public. Please do not include private information that you do not want disclosed to the public.

Please go to the Legislature's website, www.capitol.hawaii.gov, to submit **written testimony** at least 24 hours prior to the hearing. Create a free account on the website, or sign in to an existing account, then click on the "Participate" drop down menu and select the "Submit Testimony" option to get started. While submitting your

written testimony, you will be prompted to indicate if you would also like to testify at the hearing in-person or remotely via videoconference.

Please note the following:

- The number of oral testifiers and/or time allotted to each testifier may be limited by the Chair when necessary to adhere to the committee hearing schedule. We may not be able to accommodate everyone who requests to testify orally.
- Testifiers for this hearing will be limited to **5 minutes** each.

If you wish to **testify via videoconference** during the hearing, please review the detailed step-by-step instructions for testimony procedures before you submit your written testimony. Here's a direct link to the instructions: <https://capitol.hawaii.gov/docs/testimonyinstructions.pdf>

For general help navigating the committee hearing process, please contact the Public Access Room at (808) 587-0478 or par@capitol.hawaii.gov. You can also visit their website at <https://lrh.hawaii.gov/par/>.

For special assistance: The cable TV broadcast and/or live stream of this meeting will include closed captioning. If you require other auxiliary aids or services to participate in the public hearing process (i.e., interpretive services (oral or written) or ASL interpreter), or are unable to submit testimony via the website due to a disability, please contact the committee at HWNcommittee@capitol.hawaii.gov at least 24 hours prior to the hearing.

For amended notices: Measures that have been deleted are stricken through and measures that have been added are underscored. If a measure is both underscored and stricken through, that measure has been deleted from the agenda.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL THE COMMITTEE CLERK AT (808) 586 7798

Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro
Chair