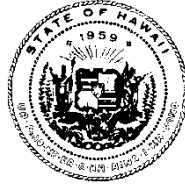


**JOSH GREEN, M.D.**  
GOVERNOR

**SYLVIA LUKE**  
LT. GOVERNOR



**DEAN MINAKAMI**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## **STATE OF HAWAII**

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM  
HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
677 QUEEN STREET, SUITE 300  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
FAX: (808) 587-0600

Statement of  
**DEAN MINAKAMI**  
Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation  
Before the

### **SENATE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS AND SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING**

February 6, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.  
State Capitol, Room 224

In consideration of  
**S.B. 3110**  
**RELATING TO THE HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT  
CORPORATION.**

HHFDC has comments on SB 3110, which adds the Chairperson of the Hawaiian Homes Commission (the HHC Chair) or the Chairperson's designee to the HHFDC Board of Directors (the Board) as an ex officio nonvoting member, among other things.

HHFDC recognizes that native Hawaiians suffer from longstanding socioeconomic hardships that include housing problems of affordability, overcrowding, and structural inadequacy. However, as written, this bill could hinder the business of the Board by requiring that six (6) members constitute a quorum instead of the current five (5) members.

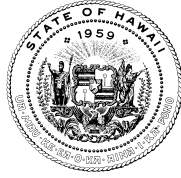
We are also concerned that this measure will make the HHFDC Board less community oriented. Presently, two-thirds (six of the nine members) of the Board are public members and three are ex-officio government members. Adding another government member, even if non-voting, will dilute the input of the Board's public members and make the HHFDC Board less community oriented as was originally intended.

If coordination between HHFDC and DHHL activities is the intent of this measure, we suggest that it may be more effective for the DHHL Chairperson to meet regularly with myself and HHFDC staff, which we are more than willing to do.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR  
STATE OF HAWAII  
*Ke Kia'āina o ka Moku'āina 'o  
Hawaii*

SYLVIA J. LUKE  
LT. GOVERNOR  
STATE OF HAWAII  
*Ka Hope Kia'āina o ka Moku'āina  
'o Hawaii*



KALI WATSON  
CHAIRMAN, HHC  
*Ka Luna Ho'okele*

KATIE L. DUCATT  
DEPUTY TO THE CHAIRMAN  
*Ka Hope Luna Ho'okele*

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

*Ka 'Oihana 'Āina Ho'opulapula Hawaii'i*

P. O. BOX 1879  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

**TESTIMONY OF KALI WATSON, CHAIRMAN**  
**HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION**  
**BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS AND**  
**THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING**  
**HEARING ON FEBRUARY 6, 2024 AT 1:00PM IN CR 224**

**SB 3110, RELATING TO THE HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT**  
**CORPORATION**

February 6, 2024

Aloha Chairs Shimabukuro and Chang, Vice Chairs Fevella and Hashimoto, and Members of the Committees:

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) supports this bill which would add the Chairperson of the Hawaiian Homes Commission or the Chairperson's designee to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC) as an exofficio nonvoting member.

The DHHL is excited about this potential opportunity for collaborative engagement and direct communication by way of participation as an exofficio nonvoting member on the HHFDC's board of directors. As an exofficio nonvoting member, the HHC Chairperson or Chairperson's designee would pose little to no disadvantage toward the HHFDC's ability to establish quorum.

The Chairperson of the HHC has a fiduciary duty to serve what is currently, approximately 29,000 native Hawaiians on the DHHL applicant waiting list, approximately 10,000 lessee beneficiaries residing on Hawaiian Home Lands, and a little over 200,000 acres of Hawaiian Home Lands. As such, inclusion of the HHC Chairperson/designee would add perspective and potency of substantive ideas, recommendations, and input in the best interest of the three different classes of beneficiaries to the Hawaiian Home Lands Trust. This bill was approved by the Hawaiian Homes Commission and included in the Governor's administrative package by request of our Department.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.

**SB-3110**

Submitted on: 1/31/2024 5:49:34 PM

Testimony for HOU on 2/6/2024 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
De MONT Kalai Manaole	Testifying for Ho'omana Pono, LLC	Support	In Person

Comments:

We **STRONGLY SUPPORT** this bill. Given the extreme power that the Legislature has given HHFDC, we must ensure that in EVERY instance of land acquisition & development by HHFDC, that no error(s) occur by HHFDC, whether intentional or unintentional upon the interests of DHHL, HHC & Trust Beneficiaries.

**SB-3110**

Submitted on: 1/31/2024 6:46:12 PM

Testimony for HOU on 2/6/2024 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Justin Silva	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Adds the Chairperson of the Hawaiian Homes Commission or the Chairperson's designee to the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation as an ex officio nonvoting member.

**SB-3110**

Submitted on: 1/31/2024 7:46:57 PM

Testimony for HOU on 2/6/2024 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lu Ann Mahiki Lankford-Faborito	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Complete support

**SB-3110**

Submitted on: 2/1/2024 8:44:32 AM

Testimony for HOU on 2/6/2024 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jan K Makepa	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Jan Makepa, I am a resident of Wai‘anae Valley Homestead. I am in OPPOSITION of SB3110. The Chair needs to focus on SFD on DHHL.

Mahalo, Jan Makepa