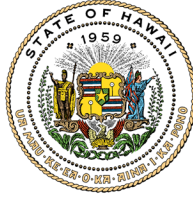


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII'
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA

P.O. BOX 621
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DAWN N.S. CHANG
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT

RYAN K.P. KANAKA'OLE
FIRST DEPUTY

CIARA W.K. KAHANE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES
ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

Testimony of
RYAN K.P. KANAKA'OLE
Acting Chairperson

Before the House Committee on
HOUSING

Wednesday, February 4, 2026
9:00 AM

State Capitol, Conference Room 430 and Via Videoconference

In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1842
RELATING TO GOVERNMENT

House Bill 1842 proposes to amend Act 289, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2025, to replace the Senior Residence at Iwilei parcel with the Westridge parcel, change the transfer date for the Ali'i Tower parcel to 12/31/2026, change the deadline for approval by the City and County of Honolulu (City) to 12/31/2027, and change the repeal date to 1/1/2028. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) opposes this measure for the reasons provided below.**

The measure amends Act 289 by replacing Tax Map Key (TMK) 1-1-5-7-2 (Senior Residence at Iwilei) with TMK 1-9-8-13-14 (Westridge). The Westridge parcel consists of the Westridge Shopping Center and is the Department's fourth highest revenue generating property that generates approximately \$664,000 per year. While the proposed amendment would provide revenue for the City, it would be a substantial loss to the Department.

To properly perform its public trust fiduciary duties, the Legislature and the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) determined that the Department should use a portion of the lands it manages to generate revenues to support the Department's operations and management of public lands/programs. Annual lease revenues currently support the Special Land and Development Fund (SLDF), with revenues coming primarily from leases for commercial, industrial, resort, geothermal and other renewable energy projects. SLDF revenues collected by the Department's Land Division cover the entire annual operating budget for the Land Division, the Department's Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands, and the Dam Safety and Mineral Resources Programs of the Department. The revenues fund over 80 Department staff positions, including 5 positions within the Commission on Water Resource Management, and provide funding support to the Division of State Parks and various resource protection programs administered by the Division of

Forestry and Wildlife such as the protection of threatened and endangered species, removal of invasive species, wildland firefighting, and lifeguard services.

The SLDF is a critical and increasingly important funding source for various divisions within the Department to deal with emergency response to natural catastrophes such as fire, rockfall, flood or earthquake and hazard investigation and mitigation. The SLDF also is critical for staff support of various programs and funding conservation projects on all state lands. It has also become an important source of state match for federally funded endangered species and invasive species initiatives that otherwise would not go forward.

The Department also notes that the Senior Residence at Iwilei is an affordable housing tower physically located between TMK 1-1-5-007-001 (the proposed Liliha Civic Center site) and TMK 1-1-5-007-030, which was recently purchased by the City. The centralized ownership of these properties would generally be ideal for any redevelopment.

In addition, the Department notes that the TMK of Westridge on page 1, line 16, should be revised to read:

(1) 1-9-8-13-14 (Westridge);

Mahalo for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

HB-1842

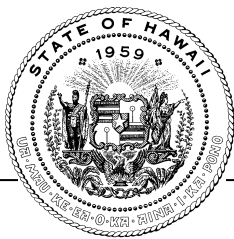
Submitted on: 2/2/2026 1:04:37 PM

Testimony for HSG on 2/4/2026 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Barry Cheung	Department of Land and Natural Resources	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Testimony was submitted on main account DLNR Testimony in opposition with Lauren Yasaka to present in-person at the hearing. Request for zoom link for additional staff to attend remotely as backup.



**STATE OF HAWAI'I
OFFICE OF PLANNING
& SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DIRECTOR

235 South Beretania Street, 6th Floor, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813
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Statement of
MARY ALICE EVANS, Director

before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

Thursday, February 4, 2026
9:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 430

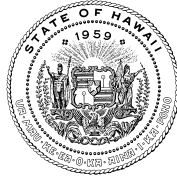
in consideration of
HB 1842
RELATING TO GOVERNMENT.

Chair Evslin, Vice Chair Miyake, and Members of the House Committee on Housing, the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD) **supports** HB 1842 which amends Act 289, SLH 2025, to replace the Senior Residence at Iwilei parcel with the Westridge parcel, change the transfer date for the Alii Tower parcel to 12/31/2026, changes the deadline for approval by the City and County of Honolulu to 12/31/2027, and changes the repeal date to 1/1/2028.

HB 1842 is a vital step in advancing Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) along Honolulu's rail corridor. By replacing the Senior Residence at Iwilei with the Westridge parcel, it allows the City and County of Honolulu to build for TOD rather than getting a parcel with an existing building. In addition, the parcels in Iwilei ensure that essential services remain and future development can build to the density that is planned for the Iwilei area. By aligning state land assets with county transit goals, HB 1842 paves the way for a more sustainable, transit-friendly future for Oahu.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



KEITH A. REGAN
COMPTROLLER
KA LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ

MEOH-LENG SILLIMAN
DEPUTY COMPTROLLER
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES | KA 'OIHANA LOIHELU A LAWELAWÉ LAULĀ
P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

WRITTEN TESTIMONY
OF
KEITH A. REGAN, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE

COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

FEBRUARY 4, 2026, 9:00 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 211 AND VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE, STATE CAPITOL

H.B. 1842

RELATING TO GOVERNMENT

Chair Evslin, Vice Chair Miyake, and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on H.B. 1842.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) offers its **supports** for H.B. 1842 which amends Act 289, Session Laws of Hawaii'i 2025 by replacing the Senior Residence at Iwilei parcel with the Westridge parcel, and changing the transfer date for the Alii Tower parcel to 12/31/2026. The bill also changes the deadline for approval by the City and County of Honolulu to 12/31/2027, and changes the repeal date to 1/1/2028.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.