



SB730
RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

February 5, 2019

1:15 p.m.

Room 016

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) Committee on Beneficiary Advocacy and Empowerment will recommend that the OHA Board of Trustees adopt a position of **COMMENT** on SB730, which would establish term limits of not more than the lesser of three terms or twelve years for members of the Board of Trustees.

OHA recognizes that Section 2 of the bill states: “This Act does not affect rights and duties that matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were begun before its effective date.” Nevertheless, OHA respectfully suggests that it is unclear whether this bill intends to include trustees already sitting on the Board at the time of the bill’s effective date, and if so, how the bill would impact sitting trustees who have already served for longer than the maximum terms described in the measure. If it is the intent of this committee to not prevent sitting trustees who have already served for

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

LATE

SB-730

Submitted on: 2/4/2019 4:47:20 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/5/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Raytan K. Vares	Testifying for Democratic Party of Hawaii-Hawaiian Affairs Caucus Executive Committee	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Shimabukuro, Vice Chair Kahele, and members of the Hawaiian Affairs Committee:

The Hawaiian Affairs Caucus Executive Committee submits testimony in support of this measure. Establishing term limits of not more than three terms or twelve years for OHA trustees will systematically ensure that new people with new ideas and different perspectives are injected into the agency. The prospect of new and possibly younger blood in elected politics is never a stale idea, as it welcomes change in a system that is otherwise difficult to change. Research has shown that electing the same politicians discourages voting from the electorate. It is critically important that voters, particularly Hawaiian voters, participate in the elections of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs for it is the only state entity with the unique mission of serving the needs of Native Hawaiians; therefore, the election of competent leadership is paramount. Lastly, should an office holder serve the twelve-year term limit, they would meet the state's eligibility into the retirement and pension system.

For these reasons, we urge your committee to pass the bill. Mahalo for your consideration.

SB-730

Submitted on: 1/25/2019 4:00:57 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/5/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-730

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 1:43:35 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/5/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Victor K. Ramos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-730

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 1:47:52 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/5/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
lynne matusow	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

It is interesting that the legislature wants to impose term limits on all offices except their own. Currently the Governor, Lt. Governor, and Mayors, and members of the county council are subject to term limits. The last two categories are governed by their charters, which imply the ovters wanted the limits. Now there is an attempt to place limits on OHA trustees. But what about the members of the State House and State Senate. Are you wanting to keep your seats for life. If term limits are good for everyone else, then the place to start is with the legislature, eights consecutive years with a four year break before you can serve again. That is only fair, only pono.

Lynne Matusow

SB-730

Submitted on: 1/30/2019 9:26:09 PM

Testimony for HWN on 2/5/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kenneth R. Conklin, Ph.D.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

We do not need any more lifer sinecures on the OHA board like Haunani Apoliona, Rowena Akana, or John Waihe'e IV

TESTIMONY OF ESTHER KIA'AINA
IN SUPPORT OF SB 730 and SB 681 BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

February 5, 2018, 1:15 p.m., Room 016

Chair Shimabukuro, Vice-Chair Kahele and Members of the Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs:

My name is Esther Kia'aina of Nanakuli, Oahu. I am testifying in support of SB 730, which establishes term limits of not more than three terms or twelve years for members of the Board of Trustees, Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

I also support SB 681, which prohibits a member of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs from serving more than two consecutive four-year terms and permits reelection after an absence of a full four-year term.

Both bills seek to provide checks and balances to the election of Trustees to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. Such measures will improve accountability and efficiency and allow for greater opportunities for the diversity of Native Hawaiians interesting in serving our community.

I respectfully urge the committee members to support the passage of SB 730 and SB 681 out of Committee.

Respectfully,

Esther Kia'aina
estherkiaaina@aol.com

SB-730

Submitted on: 2/5/2019 6:05:51 AM

Testimony for HWN on 2/5/2019 1:15:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kamuela Werner	Individual	Support	No

Comments: