

SB2408



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

P.O. BOX 1879
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

TESTIMONY OF KAULANA H. R. PARK, CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND HOUSING
ON **SB 2408 SD 1 - RELATING TO HOUSING DEVELOPMENT**

February 17, 2010

Chair Sakamoto, Vice-Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands supports the intent of this legislation that would allow for private developers to satisfy their Hawaii Community Development Authority reserve housing requirements by building homes on Hawaiian home lands.

We view this legislation as mutually beneficial to both DHHL and HCDA. SB 2408 SD1 supports our mission to develop and deliver lands to native Hawaiians and it also supports HCDA's goal of addressing the shortage of affordable housing units in our state.

DHHL has approximately 25,000 native Hawaiians applicants waiting for an opportunity for home ownership. This bill is similar to Act 141 (2009) and is a valuable tool as we continue to provide homes to our beneficiaries and alleviate the housing crisis; a true win-win situation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



SB2408 SD1
RELATING TO HOUSING DEVELOPMENT
Senate Committee on Education and Housing

February 17, 2010

1:30 pm

Room 225

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** SB 2408 SD 1.

The state's housing crisis is one of the most critical issues facing Hawai'i's residents, including our beneficiaries. Many Native Hawaiian families struggle to find adequate housing in their kulāiwi (ancestral homeland). More needs to be done to address the affordable housing issue or our beneficiaries will continue to move down the economic and social ladder.

SB 2408 SD 1 would help address this issue by providing additional affordable housing opportunities for our beneficiaries on lands controlled by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

Therefore, OHA urges the committee to PASS SB 2408 SD 1. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.



HAWAII COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY



KAKAOKO
KALAELOA

Linda Lingle
Governor

C. Scott Bradley
Chairperson

Anthony J. H. Ching
Executive Director

461 Cooke Street
Honolulu, Hawaii
96813

Telephone
(808) 594-0300

Facsimile
(808) 594-0299

E-Mail
contact@hcdaweb.org

Web site
www.hcdaweb.org

STATEMENT OF

ANTHONY J. H. CHING, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
HAWAII COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

BEFORE THE

SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND HOUSING

Wednesday, February 17, 2010

1:30 P.M.

State Capitol, Conference Room 225

S.B. 2408 S.D.1 - RELATING TO HOUSING DEVELOPMENT.

Purpose: The purpose of this Act is to amend Chapter 206E-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, which establishes the powers of the Hawaii Community Development Authority (“HCDA”).

In particular, Paragraph 18 of Section 4 would be amended to allow the provision of a percentage of the reserved housing required of a development project to be satisfied by the “substitution” of reserved housing at a location other than the development project.

In cases where the “substitute” reserved housing is provided beyond the geographic boundaries of HCDA’s community development districts, such “substitute” reserved housing shall be located on lands controlled by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (“DHHL”).

Position: The HCDA takes no position on the proposal but offers comments.

The intent of the Act is laudable in that the development of “substitute” reserved housing units on lands controlled by the DHHL would enhance that department’s efforts to provide housing to its beneficiaries. By providing that fifty percent (50%) of any reserved housing requirement imposed by the HCDA be equally developed on lands controlled by the DHHL and within the Kakaako Community Development District (KCDD), both housing programs may benefit.

Given the importance of producing affordable housing for DHHL beneficiaries and the general public, consideration should be given by the Legislature to specifying what percentage (whether 33%, 50%) if any, of a developer's reserved housing obligation should be "substituted" at sites requested by the DHHL with preference being given to projects located within the urban core of Honolulu.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on this proposal.

February 16, 2010

Sovereign Councils
of the



Hawaiian Homelands
Assembly

1050 Queen St. Suite 200
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96814
Ph: (808) 529-1627
Fax: (808) 357-3556

Kamaki Kanahahele
Chair
O'ahu

Leah K. Pereira
Vice-Chair
Kaua'i

Kammy Purdy
Secretary
Moloka'i

M. Kanani Kapuniai
Treasurer
Hawai'i

Jared Aiwahi
Executive Officer
Maui

Richard Soo
Executive Director

To: **Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair**
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair & Members of the
Committee on Education and Housing

From: **Kali Watson**
Chairman of Statewide Economic Development Committee
SCHHA
Honolulu, Hawaii 96792

Re: **Hearing on SB -2408 Relating to Housing Development**
February 17, 2010 at 1:30 pm
Conference Room 225, State Capitol

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT

Dear Chair Sakamoto, Vice Chair Kidani and Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 2408-relating to Housing Development. This bill permits landowners and developers on HCDA lands the option of satisfying or substituting a percentage or portion of their affordable or "reserved" housing requirements on DHHL lands. Being one of the largest and major developers right now in the State, DHHL, or a developer acting on its behalf, could more easily facilitate, subsidize or capitalize a project using the HCDA option. By permitting this additional option, this may stimulate the State's construction industry, while at the same time help the homeless situation.

Besides DHHL, the Homestead Associations have taken on development initiative in affordable housing. In particular, the Nanakuli Hawaiian Homestead Community Association is developing a 48 unit Hale Makana O Nanakuli affordable rental housing project geared to serving low-income families in the 30% to 40% area median income levels, the lowest levels realistically possible. This will help with the homeless population on the leeward coast. The Waianae Kai Homestead Community Association is doing a combination Photo voltaic farm with a kupuna housing and community center. The Papakolea Kewalo Kalawahine Associations are contemplating a kupuna housing and wellness center project on the slopes of Punchbowl. The HCDA option makes these projects more viable.

The Sovereign Councils of the Hawaiian Homelands Assembly, formerly the State Council of Hawaiian Homestead Associations was founded more than 20 years ago to unite homestead communities and to advocate for the beneficiaries of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act of 1921. The SCHHA is the oldest statewide advocacy organization representing the interests of more than 30,000 beneficiaries and families residing in the communities of the Hawaiian Home Land Trust. Its mission is to promote the self determination of native Hawaiians and the well being of homestead communities. I urge you to please pass this measure, SB 2408.

Sincerely,

Kali Watson
Chairman of Economic Development