
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS TO SEEK AND GATHER
INPUT ON REVENUE-GENERATING INITIATIVES FOR ITS
BENEFICIARIES.

1 WHEREAS, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) was
2 established under the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920, as
3 amended, that was passed by Congress and signed into law by
4 President Warren G. Harding on July 9, 1921, to provide for the
5 rehabilitation of the native Hawaiian people through a
6 government-sponsored homesteading program; and
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8 WHEREAS, the mission of DHHL is to manage the Hawaiian Home
9 Lands trust effectively, to develop and deliver lands to native
10 Hawaiians, and to partner with others toward developing self-
11 sufficient and healthy communities; and
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13 WHEREAS, the intent of the homesteading program is to
14 encourage the economic self-sufficiency of native Hawaiians
15 through the provision of land for residential, agricultural,
16 aquacultural, or pastoral use; and
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18 WHEREAS, to accomplish the intent of the homesteading
19 program, DHHL issues native Hawaiians 99-year homestead leases
20 at an annual rent of \$1, with the option of extending these
21 leases for an aggregate term not to exceed 199 years; and
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23 WHEREAS, in addition to the direct benefits DHHL provides
24 to native Hawaiians, the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act also
25 affords native Hawaiians additional benefits including financial
26 assistance through direct loans or loan guarantees for home
27 construction, replacement, or repair, and for the development of
28 farms and ranches; technical assistance to farmers and ranchers;
29 and the operation of water systems; and



1 WHEREAS, thousands of native Hawaiians have waited numerous
 2 years, some even waiting decades, for a land lease from DHHL,
 3 which has been slowed by limited financial resources necessary
 4 for the development of infrastructure such as roads, water
 5 lines, and sewer lines, which are critical to the development of
 6 lots that are ready for home construction by leaseholders; and
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8 WHEREAS, to address the loss of its single largest source
 9 of funding in 2015, namely a \$30 million annual appropriation as
 10 a result of a land settlement agreement with the State, DHHL has
 11 sought other means of financing homestead development, including
 12 obtaining the authority to float millions of dollars in revenue
 13 bonds for development and establishing partnerships with other
 14 native Hawaiian trusts; and
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16 WHEREAS, despite the tremendous efforts of DHHL and the
 17 marked improvement in the number of residential lots developed
 18 for homestead use over the past several years, funding
 19 constraints continue to hinder land development; and
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21 WHEREAS, the development of homes and communities is
 22 critical to the economic self-sufficiency of native Hawaiians,
 23 the beneficiaries of the homesteading program. Thus, DHHL must
 24 continue its efforts in finding additional sources of revenue to
 25 accomplish its development goals; now, therefore,
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27 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 28 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
 29 of 2011, the Senate concurring, that DHHL is urged to seek and
 30 gather input on revenue generating initiatives for its
 31 beneficiaries; and
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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 34 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chair of the
 35 Hawaiian Homes Commission.
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OFFERED BY: 


