DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR STATE OF HAWAII

JOSH GREEN LT. GOVERNOR STATE OF HAWAII



WILLIAM J. AILA, JR CHAIRMAN HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION

TYLER I. GOMES
DEPUTY TO THE CHAIRMAN

## STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

P. O. BOX 1879 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

January 8, 2021

TESTIMONY

TO:

Suzanne D. Case, Chairperson

Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR)

FROM:

William J. Ailā, Jr., Chairman

Department of Hawaiian Home Lands

SUBJECT:BLNR Agenda Item D.8: Quitclaim of State's Interests, if Any, in a Portion of Government Land to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, Palaua and Hoolehua, Kona, Molokai, Tax Map Key: (2) 5-2-004:046.

In 1938, the Hawaiian Homes Commission, in accordance with the provisions of Section 212 of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, returned Hawaiian Home Lands to the Commissioner of Public Lands to be used exclusively as an addition to the Moloka'i Airport as described in HHC Resolutions numbered 60 and 61. Additional lands were set aside for exclusive use as an addition to the Moloka'i Airport in HHC Resolutions numbered 77, and 79 in 1942. A portion of these lands (approximately 42 acres currently identified as Nā'iwa- TMK(2)5-2-004:046 located to the south-east of the current airport boundaries) are not being used as an addition to the Moloka'i Airport.

As of November 30, 2020, 1,098 beneficiaries are awaiting the award of an agriculture homestead on the Island of Moloka'i. According to the DHHL Moloka'i Island Plan (2005), the Nā'iwa lands could be utilized for the creation of 58 agriculture homestead lots in support of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920 as amended (HHCA).

Considering that the State has not pursued, nor is considering the pursuit of the use of  $N\bar{a}$  'iwa lands TMK(2)5-2-004:046) for an addition to the Moloka'i Airport and the need of

ref.:P0-21-002

Suzanne D. Case, Chairperson, BLNR January 8, 2010 2 of 2

the DHHL to award 1,098 agriculture awards on Moloka'i in support of the HHCA, we support Board approval of agenda item D.8, the Quitclaim of the States Interest, if any in a portion of government land to DHHL, TMK(2)5-2-004:046.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Andrew H. Choy, Acting Planning Program Manager at (808) 620-9480 or by email at: andrew.h.choy@hawaii.gov.