

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Hawaii State Legislature

March 13, 2018

House Bill 2464 HD2

Relating to the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act

Aloha Chair Shimabukuro and Vice Chair Galuteria,

Ka Lāhui Hawaii Political Action Committee (KPAC) supports **HB 2464 HD2** which makes any person who sells or transfers an interest in a Hawaiian Home Lands lease ineligible to receive a subsequent lease for the same class of land except in limited circumstances.

Currently, there are over 20,000 applicants on the list waiting to receive land awards. This measure would help to alleviate double dipping and even out the chances for all Kanaka Maoli of 50% blood quantum to attain a lease for their own homestead in a more timely. According to a recent study entitled “Asset Limited Income Constrained Employed: A Study of Financial Hardships in Hawaiʻi” published in 2017, fifty-seven percent of all Kanaka Maoli in Hawaiʻi are struggling financially and 33% of all houseless are Kanaka Maoli. Eliminating the number of eligible Kanaka Maoli on the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands waitlist should be a priority for the State.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Healani Sonoda-Pale

Chair, KPAC