



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

Legislative Testimony

Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Housing
Tuesday, March 21, 2023, at 1:10 p.m.

by

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SCR166 / SR192 – REQUESTING A FEASIBILITY STUDY ON REDEVELOPING LANDS SITUATED AT TMK (1) 2-8-015:001 INTO WORKFORCE HOUSING AND OTHER AFFILIATED USES

Chair Chang, Vice Chair Kanuha, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on these resolutions. The University of Hawai'i (University) owns the real property parcel located at TMK (1) 2-8-015:001 and supports the intent of these resolutions to examine the feasibility, potential, and options for developing housing or other future uses on the property. The University would hope that whatever ideas for future redevelopment would provide for benefits to the University, be an improvement enhancing the surrounding neighborhood, as well as help meet broader state issues – like addressing shortages of housing.

TMK (1) 2-8-015:001 is a parcel located near the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (UHM) campus. It currently is the location of the College of Education, the former location of Public Broadcasting Station (PBS), the University Laboratory (Charter) School, and the UHM Childcare Center. The University is undertaking capital projects that eventually will relocate all of the University facilities and will start redeveloping the former PBS building site. While there is no specific time frame or formal target as to when the property could be completely vacated, the University has already been looking towards conceptualizing potential redevelopment. Housing is an obvious consideration and has already been identified as a developed use that could offer benefits to the University as well as improvements to the surrounding neighborhood.

The resolutions contemplate Hawai'i Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC) as the lead agency that could undertake a study to conceptualize potential uses. The University would welcome any assistance from sister agencies for expertise formatting potential future uses on the property.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.