

Letters to the Editor
Honolulu Star-Advertiser
7 Waterfront Plaza, 500 Ala Moana Blvd., Suite 210
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Editor:

I have been reading your recent coverage of DHHL and especially the comments relating to the new draft RP program. While we appreciate your paper's coverage of DHHL and the improvements being undertaken to better serve our native Hawaiian beneficiaries, I would like to clarify what my intent as a Commissioner was in approving the new Draft RP program.

The Hawaiian Homes Commission decision in December was intended to help the Department better manage Trust lands that are not ready to be developed for residential use in the next 20 years. We believe the new program will create opportunities for our beneficiaries, improve the management of underutilized lands while also creating a revenue stream that can be used to provide other benefits to our people.

This is just the start of our process. No final decision on the RP program will be made until our beneficiaries have had an opportunity to share their mana'o. Rather than having just a few dominate the discussion, we look forward to hearing from all voices in our homestead communities.

Mahalo!



David B. Kaapu
Hawaiian Homes Commission