

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

March 24, 2020

Dr. Ben Carson, Secretary  
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
451 7th Street S.W.,  
Washington, DC 20410

Dear Secretary Carson:

Subject: Department of Hawaiian Home Lands COVID-19 Direct Loan Deferral

The Hawaiian Homes Commission (HHC) on Tuesday, March 23, 2020, during a special emergency meeting, approved the postponement of mortgage payments for Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) Direct Loans and loans assigned back to the agency.

With the unprecedented impact of the COVID-19 epidemic on Hawai'i's fragile economy, I am asking that the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) join the Hawaiian Homes Commission in lending support to our families.

HHC's decision allows for the deferral of all applicable payments for a period of six months, effective with the April 2020 payment. Currently, there are 2,816 HUD/ FHA 247 insured loans and 499 HUD 184A loans on Hawaiian Home Lands. I am making a formal request for similar consideration by HUD for these loans.

For over 30 years, DHHL and HUD have successfully partnered to make available over \$500 million of private sector financing on trust lands for native Hawaiian families.

Should you desire to discuss this matter further or have any questions, please contact me at (808) 620-9506 or e-mail [william.j.ailajr@hawaii.gov](mailto:william.j.ailajr@hawaii.gov). I am grateful for your consideration during this trying time for all.

Aloha,

William J. Aila, Jr., Chairman  
Hawaiian Homes Commission

cc: Brian D. Montgomery, Assistant Secretary for Housing – HUD Federal Housing Commissioner  
Lori Han, Chief Counsel – HUD Office of General Counsel Region IX  
Heidi J. Frechette, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Native American Programs - HUD Office of Public and Indian Housing  
Claudine Allen, Lead Native Hawaiian Program Specialist - HUD Honolulu Field Office