

JUSTIFICATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Hawaiian Home Lands

TITLE: A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT.

PURPOSE: To add the Chair of the Hawaiian Homes Commission or the Chair's designee to the Commission on Water Resource Management.

MEANS: Amend section 174C-7(a) and (b), Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS).

JUSTIFICATION: The State Water Code requires that decisions of the Commission on Water Resource Management incorporate and protect adequate reserves of water for current and foreseeable development and use of Hawaiian Home Lands. Allowing the Chair of the Hawaiian Homes Commission or the Chair's designee to serve on the Commission on Water Resource Management, would provide an opportunity for the Chair or the Chair's designee to participate in setting policies, defining uses, and establishing priorities and procedures over land-based surface water and ground water resources, which are key components of the development and use of Hawaiian Home Lands.

Clarifies in section 174C-7(b), HRS, that only five water commission members selected by the Governor must have substantial experience in the area of water resource management.

Impact on the public: This bill protects the interests of beneficiaries of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920, as amended, by allowing the Chair of the Hawaiian Homes Commission or the Chair's designated representative to serve as an ex officio voting member of the Commission on Water Resource Management.

Impact on the department and other agencies:

An additional member would serve on the Commission on Water Resource Management.

GENERAL FUND: None.

OTHER FUNDS: None.

PPBS PROGRAM
DESIGNATION: HHL 625.

OTHER AFFECTED
AGENCIES: Commission on Water Resource Management.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon approval.