



**Date:** October 5, 2021

**To:** Teresa Leger Fernandez, Chairwoman  
House of Representative Subcommittee on the  
Indigenous People of the United States

**From:** Iwalani Laybon-McBrayer, President  
Kaupe'a Homestead Association

**RE:** Testimony in Support of House Joint Resolution 55

Honorable Chair and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of H.J. Res. 55. My name is Iwalani Laybon-McBrayer, I am the President of Kaupe'a Homestead Association, located in Kapolei Hawaii, representing a Hawaiian Community of 326 Homestead Beneficiaries.

H.J. Res. 55 is a pathway for Homestead Beneficiaries to remain on Federal Trust lands as our 1920 Hawaiian Homes Commission Act intended for generations to come. The opportunity for our children, grandchildren and unborn grandchildren to be heir in succeeding our homes, ranches or farm lands is the foundation for self-sustainability and self-governance.

The current blood quantum restrictions limit families to successorship, this is unfavorable and unjust. This stops the transfer of our Homestead to family members to remain on Hawaiian Homes Trust Lands.

Kaupe'a Homestead Community supports H.J. Res. 55 so that many of the 9,875 Homestead Beneficiaries already living on Hawaiian Home Lands can remain for 1,000 generations, as our Prince Kuhio envisioned for the betterment of the Hawaiian people.

Please accept my testimony in support of H.J. Res 55. Your support and advancement is greatly appreciated.

**P.O. Box 75539, Kapolei, HI 96707**