



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
INSTALLATIONS, ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
110 ARMY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON DC 20310-0110

MAR 18 2026

The Honorable Kaiali'i Kahele
Chairperson, Board of Trustees
Office of Hawaiian Affairs
560 N. Nimitz Hwy., Suite 200
Honolulu, HI 96817

Dear Chairperson Kahele:

Thank you for your February 26, 2026 letter concerning the upcoming expiration of Army training land leases. I have been asked to respond on behalf of Secretary of the Army, Dan Driscoll. The Department of the Army acknowledges the state constitutional role of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA), OHA's fiduciary duties to its beneficiaries, and the profound significance of Public Land Trust lands. The Army is committed to a lawful and transparent process for determining the future of leased training lands.

The Army is pleased that OHA is represented on the Governor's Advisory Committee. Such representation helps ensure the interests of the Native Hawaiian community—especially Native Hawaiian rights and cultural protections—are central to the dialogue. The Army will continue to work through the Governor's office to facilitate and coordinate formal discussions with the State of Hawai'i.

The Army looks forward to engaging with OHA's representative on the Governor's Advisory Committee. We are confident that our partnership with the state will lead to responsible solutions that protect our shared national security imperatives while respecting the people, culture, and land of Hawai'i.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. Jordan Gillis", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

W. Jordan Gillis