

PREFACE

A Reference Guide to the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act

The Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, passed by Congress and signed into law on July 9, 1921, established the Hawaiian Home Lands Trust composed of over 200,000 acres set aside for the indigenous people of Hawai'i. The Congress intended that this Trust would enable its beneficiaries to return to their land to improve and perpetuate their self-sufficiency and cultural preservation. Since the inception of the Trust over a century ago, Congress has enacted many amendments to the original act and enabled the State of Hawai'i to provide additional amendments dealing with the day-to-day administration of the Trust.

This *Reference Guide to the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act* fulfills the Department's responsibility to maintain the text of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act and makes the full history of the Federal and State amendments to the Act more readily available in a single, cross-referenced document. While the Reference Guide was initially created to address the administrative needs of the Department of the Interior, it is our hope that it also will be of assistance to others whose programs and responsibilities seek to serve the beneficiaries of the Hawaiian Home Lands Trust.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Troy Finnegan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Troy" and last name "Finnegan" clearly distinguishable.

Troy W. Finnegan
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Exercising the Delegated Authority of the Assistant Secretary –
Policy, Management and Budget