

JAN 25 2006

S.B. NO. 2331

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC HOUSING.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1 SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to repeal the sunset  
2 date for the expedited public housing eviction procedures.

3 SECTION 2. Act 227, Session Laws of Hawaii 2002, is  
4 amended by amending section 13 to read as follows:

5 "SECTION 13. This Act shall take effect upon its approval  
6 ~~[and shall be repealed on July 1, 2007; provided that sections~~  
7 ~~201G 33, 201G 51, 201G 52, 201G 53, 201G 54, 201G 55, and 201G~~  
8 ~~56, Hawaii Revised Statutes, are reenacted in the form in which~~  
9 ~~they read on the day before the approval of this Act]."~~

10 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
11 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

12 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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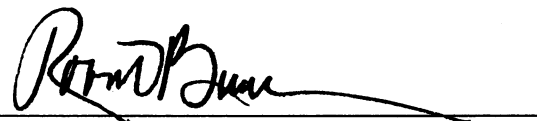
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INTRODUCED BY: \_\_\_\_\_



BY REQUEST

JUSTIFICATION SHEET

**SB. NO. 2331**

DEPARTMENT: Human Services

TITLE: A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC HOUSING

PURPOSE: The purpose of this bill is to repeal the sunset of provisions streamlining the public housing evictions process.

MEANS: Amend section 13 of Act 227, Session Laws of Hawaii 2002.

JUSTIFICATION: Act 227, Session Laws of Hawaii (SLH) 2002, streamlined the administrative process for public housing evictions. Prior to its passage, the process was as follows: eviction hearing, administrative appeal, then appeal to circuit court. This process took an average of 18 months to complete before the HCDCH could obtain a writ of possession and evict a violating tenant.

Act 227, SLH 2002 removed the administrative appeal from the process and allowed a tenant to appeal directly to circuit court from an eviction hearing. This has shortened the public housing evictions process to an average of 6 months to complete, which has greatly improved the HCDCH's ability to manage its public housing projects. Act 227, SLH 2002, also added a statutory requirement that the tenant and the HCDCH attempt to meet and reach an informal resolution of lease violations prior to referrals for eviction. The informal resolution process has also averted a substantial number of violations from being referred for eviction.

Because the changes made by Act 227, SLH 2002, have improved the eviction process, the sunset date of July 1, 2007 should be removed, allowing the changes to become permanent.

Impact on the public: Continues improvements to public housing resident compliance with house rules and rent obligations, resulting in more stable communities.

Impact on the department and other agencies: Maintains statutory improvements to the public housing evictions process, which will continue to lessen the expense of managing public housing.

GENERAL FUND: None.  
OTHER FUNDS: None.  
PPBS PROGRAM  
DESIGNATION: HMS 220.  
OTHER AFFECTED  
AGENCIES: None.  
EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon approval.