

GOV. MSG. NO. 973

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

HONOLULU

LINDA LINGLE GOVERNOR

June 21, 2007

The Honorable Colleen Hanabusa, President and Members of the Senate Twenty-Fourth State Legislature State Capitol, Room 409 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Madam President and Members of the Senate:

This is to inform you that on June 21, 2007, the following bill was signed into law:

HB835 HD2 SD1 CD1

A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOUSING. (ACT 203)

Sincerely,

JAMES R. AIONA, JR.

Acting Governor

Approved by the Governor JUN 2 1 2007

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE, 2007 STATE OF HAWAII ACT 203
H.B. NO. 835
H.D. 2
S.D. 1
C.D. 1

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HOUSING.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the closure of Del
- 2 Monte Fresh Produce will have a significant adverse effect on
- 3 pineapple workers. Housing ranks among their primary concerns.
- 4 Currently, many employees, retirees, and their families live in
- 5 plantation homes owned by the company at the Kunia camp and by
- 6 Hawaiian Island Homes at the Poamoho camp. With the closure of
- 7 Del Monte Fresh Produce, many of these families face the
- 8 possibility of losing their homes. Housing is a fundamental
- 9 need, to which every person should have access.
- 10 With the loss of their jobs, many pineapple workers and
- 11 retirees will undergo a transition period as they seek new
- 12 employment, participate in job training programs, or seek other
- 13 opportunities. While employee incomes may be greatly
- 14 diminished, workers and retirees must continue to make their
- 15 housing payments and meet other living expenses. Many former
- 16 employees and retirees in transition may find it difficult to
- 17 retain their homes.

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- The legislature finds that providing assistance to these 1 workers, retirees, and their families is for the benefit of the 2 public health, safety, and welfare of the State. 3 The purpose of this Act is to assist former Del Monte Fresh 4 Produce pineapple workers and retirees in danger of losing their 5 homes by establishing a pineapple workers and retirees housing 6 assistance fund to help eligible homeowners keep up with their 7 mortgage payments and provide rental subsidies. 8 SECTION 2. Chapter 201H, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is 9 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated 10 and to read as follows: 11 "\$201H- Pineapple workers and retirees housing 12 assistance fund; established. (a) There is established in the 13 state treasury the pineapple workers and retirees housing 14 assistance fund to provide mortgage payments or rent subsidies 15 for eligible Del Monte Fresh Produce pineapple workers and 16 retirees and their families who are displaced or affected by the 17 closure of Del Monte Fresh Produce. The pineapple workers and 18 retirees housing assistance fund shall be administered by the 19 20 corporation. Moneys appropriated for the purposes of this section 21
- 22 shall be deposited into the pineapple workers and retirees

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- 1 housing assistance fund; provided that, upon fulfillment of the
- 2 purposes of this section, all unencumbered moneys shall lapse
- 3 into the general fund. The corporation shall establish
- 4 quidelines with respect to eligible Del Monte Fresh Produce
- 5 pineapple workers and retirees and mortgage payments or rental
- 6 assistance payments under this section.
- 7 (c) The corporation shall adopt rules in accordance with
- 8 chapter 91 to effectuate the purposes of this section."
- 9 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
- 10 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$600,000 for fiscal
- 11 year 2007-2008 and the same sum for fiscal year 2008-2009 for
- 12 deposit into the pineapple workers and retirees housing
- 13 assistance fund established under section 201H- , Hawaii
- 14 Revised Statutes.
- 15 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the pineapple
- 16 workers and retirees housing assistance fund the sum of
- 17 \$600,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
- 18 2007-2008 and the same sum or so much thereof as may be
- 19 necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 to provide mortgage payments
- 20 or rent subsidies for eligible Del Monte Fresh Produce pineapple
- 21 workers and retirees and their families who are displaced or

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- 1 affected by the closure of Del Monte Fresh Produce and to fund
- 2 related administrative activities.
- 3 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii
- 4 housing finance and development corporation for the purposes of
- 5 this Act.
- 6 SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.
- 7 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.

APPROVED this 21 day of

JUN

, 2007

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII