HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE, 2008 STATE OF HAWAII

H.C.R. NO. 362

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE COUNTIES TO CONSIDER ESTABLISHING REAL PROPERTY TAX HARDSHIP EXEMPTIONS TO ASSIST RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY TAXPAYERS.

WHEREAS, the recent real estate boom has caused rising 1 property values and increased real property tax rates in the 2 3 State; and 4 WHEREAS, the construction of luxury homes in some middle 5 6 income neighborhoods has also caused an increase in property tax 7 rates in those neighborhoods; and 8 WHEREAS, these skyrocketing real property tax rates are 9 beyond the means of some residential property owners who may be 10 in jeopardy of losing their property because of the increasing 11 property tax rates; and 12 13 14 WHEREAS, the state of Idaho provides property tax relief to its residents in the form of homeowners, elderly and disabled, 15 and hardship exemptions; and 16 17 WHEREAS, Idaho's hardship exemption allows county 18 commissions to forgive a resident's real property tax liability, 19 or a portion thereof, in certain cases where property is damaged 20 21 by an event causing casualty losses; and 22 WHEREAS, the hardship exemption could be expanded to 23 24 accommodate certain cases in Hawaii where homeowners, through no fault of their own, are in jeopardy of losing their property due 25 to rising real property tax rates; now, therefore, 26 27 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 28 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular 29 Session of 2008, the Senate concurring, that the counties are 30

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1 requested to consider establishing real property tax hardship 2 exemptions to assist residential property taxpayers; and 3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this 4 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor and the 5 6 Chairperson of the Council of each county. 7 8 9 OFFERED BY: Mele Canale

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MAR 1 2 2008

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