

# S.B. NO. 1448

JAN 22 2007

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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY.

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

1       SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to authorize the  
2 Hawaii public housing authority subject to the approval of the  
3 governor, to set the salary of the executive director and the  
4 executive assistant of the authority.

5       SECTION 2. Section 356D-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
6 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

7       "(b) The authority shall employ, exempt from chapter 76 and  
8 section 26-35(a)(4), an executive director and an executive  
9 assistant. [~~The executive director shall be paid a salary not  
10 to exceed eighty five per cent of the salary of the director of  
11 human resources development. The executive assistant shall be  
12 paid a salary not to exceed ninety per cent of the executive  
13 director's salary.~~] The authority shall set the salary of the  
14 executive director and executive assistant, subject to the  
15 approval of the governor. The authority may employ, subject to  
16 chapter 76, technical experts and officers, agents, and  
17 employees, permanent or temporary, as required. The authority  
18 may also employ officers, agents, and employees; prescribe their

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1 duties and qualifications; and fix their salaries, not subject  
 2 to chapter 76, when in the determination of the authority, the  
 3 services to be performed are unique and essential to the  
 4 execution of the functions of the authority; provided that if  
 5 the authority hires an officer, agent, or employee in a capacity  
 6 not subject to chapter 76, the authority shall include in an  
 7 annual report to the legislature, to be submitted not later than  
 8 twenty days prior to the convening of each regular session, the  
 9 position descriptions and reasons for hiring the personnel in a  
 10 civil service exempt capacity. The authority may call upon the  
 11 attorney general for legal services as it may require. The  
 12 authority may delegate to one or more of its agents or employees  
 13 the powers and duties it deems proper."

14 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
 15 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

16 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

17  
 18 INTRODUCED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

19 BY REQUEST

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JUSTIFICATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Human Services.

TITLE: A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY.

PURPOSE: To authorize the Hawaii Public Housing Authority's Board of Directors to set the salaries of the Executive Director and the Executive Assistant, subject to the approval of the Governor, in order to attract and retain qualified executives.

MEANS: Amend section 356D-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

JUSTIFICATION: The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) is a comprehensive housing agency. The HPHA operates over 6,000 state and federal public housing units statewide. It also manages the State's Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program, the State Rent Supplement Program, and Homeless Programs.

The salary of the Executive Director as established by statute is not to exceed 85 per cent of the salary of the Department of Human Resources Development director, and the salary of the Executive Assistant is not to exceed 90 per cent of the Executive Director's salary. A national survey of executive officer salary ranges for comparable public housing agencies shows that salaries in other jurisdictions are substantially higher than those currently allowed.

Impact on the public: None.

Impact on the department and other agencies: The HPHA would be able to attract and retain qualified, experienced executives.

GENERAL FUND: None.

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OTHER FUNDS: Contingent upon the decision of the Hawaii  
Public Housing Authority Board of Directors.

PPBS PROGRAM  
DESIGNATION: HMS 229.

OTHER AFFECTED  
AGENCIES: None.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon approval.