SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY AND THE HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO CREATE REDEVELOPMENT MASTER PLANS FOR KUKUI GARDENS AND MAYOR WRIGHT HOMES.

WHEREAS, Kukui Gardens and Mayor Wright Homes are large affordable housing complexes located in Palama in the City and County of Honolulu; and

WHEREAS, Kukui Gardens is a low-rise complex comprised of eight hundred fifty-seven affordable units, and it houses approximately twenty-five hundred residents; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Wright Homes is a low-rise complex comprised of three hundred sixty-three units that have continuously suffered from maintenance problems; and

WHEREAS, Hawaii is in need of more affordable housing units for low- and moderate-income households; and

WHEREAS, homelessness and a shortage of affordable housing continue to be two of the State's most significant and challenging social problems; and

WHEREAS, the Hawaii Public Housing Authority indicates that the waiting list for public housing is approximately seven thousand people; and

WHEREAS, Kukui Gardens and Mayor Wright Homes are located in an area zoned by the City and County of Honolulu as an A-2 medium-density apartment district with regulated building heights of one hundred fifty feet; and

WHEREAS, there is a planned transit stop at the nearby junction of Dillingham Boulevard and Liliha Street; and

WHEREAS, lower income families are the most likely to use public mass transit; and

WHEREAS, the Kukui Gardens and Mayor Wright Homes properties are not being utilized to their highest and best use; and

WHEREAS, the State owns half of Kukui Gardens, all of Mayor Wright Homes, and a strip of land located on Liliha Street between the two complexes; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008, that the Hawaii Public Housing Authority and the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation are requested to convene a working group to create a master plan to redevelop Kukui Gardens and Mayor Wright Homes, that utilizes the state-owned strip of land located on Liliha Street, and includes mixed use commercial and residential market rate housing as well as low- to moderate-income housing; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group shall include representatives from the Hawaii Public Housing Authority and the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation, as coconvenors, as well as representatives from the following:

(1) Kukui EAH/DGI Associates, L.P.;

(2) Individuals or organizations representing residents of Kukui Gardens;

(3) Individuals or organizations representing residents of Mayor Wright Homes; and

(4) Other community stakeholders; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Public Housing Authority and the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation are requested to submit a report of the working group findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2009; and

 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Executive Director of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority, the Executive Director of the

- 1 Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation, and the
- 2 President of Kukui EAH/DGI Associates, L.P.