

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

**616**

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 16 2007

RE: S.B. No. 1450  
S.D. 1

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2007  
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Human Services and Public Housing, to which was referred S.B. No. 1450 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE STATE RENT SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to broaden participation in the State Rent Supplement Program by removing the statutory limitation on the subsidy amount, which is currently \$160 per month, and to increase the income limits for participation from fifty per cent of area median income to ninety-five per cent of area median income.

The Hawaii Public Housing Authority, Catholic Charities Hawai'i, Hawaii Family Forum, and one individual submitted testimony in support of this measure.

Your Committee finds that the State Rent Supplement Program could assist a larger number of households in today's housing market if the statutory limitation on the subsidy amount is removed and the income limit for participation is increased to ninety-five per cent of the area median income. According to the Department of Human Services, this measure will increase the number of households eligible for rent supplement payments by approximately two hundred additional households.



It is your Committee's intent to allow the Hawaii Public Housing Authority to adjust the subsidy amount to reflect current market conditions. Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Allowing a person living in a transitional shelter who meets the requirements of section 356D-153, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to be considered a "qualified tenant" for purposes of the rent supplement; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive changes for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Human Services and Public Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1450, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1450, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.


Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Human Services and  
Public Housing,

  
SUZANNE CHUN OAKLAND, Chair



The Senate  
Twenty-Fourth Legislature  
State of Hawaii

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Human Services and Public Housing**  
**HSP**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>SB 1450</b>	Committee Referral: <b>HSP, WAM</b>	Date: <b>2-15-07</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne (C)	✓			
IHARA, Jr., Les (VC)	✓			
SAKAMOTO, Norman				✓
HEMMINGS, Fred	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution:            Original            Yellow            Pink File with Committee Report            Clerk's Office            Drafting Agency				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes