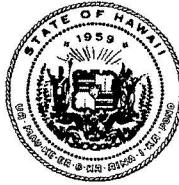


LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR



CHAD K. TANIGUCHI  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY  
1002 NORTH SCHOOL STREET  
POST OFFICE BOX 17907  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

Statement of  
**Chad K. Taniguchi**  
Hawaii Public Housing Authority  
Before the

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES & HOUSING**

March 20, 2008, 9:30 a.m.  
Room 329, Hawaii State Capitol

In consideration of  
**HCR 149**

The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) provides comments on HCR 149, urging HPHA to issue a request for proposals to form a public/private partnership to renovate the State's public housing inventory.

HPHA acknowledges that public/private partnerships may help create new opportunities for HPHA to repair and renovate its public housing inventory. This is important given the present limitations of the state and federal economies. Please note that HPHA's lump sum capital improvement project (CIP) request in the Executive Supplemental Budget is \$20,000,000. H.B. 2500 HD1, Relating to the State Budget, reduced this funding to \$10,000,000. This reduction will make it difficult for HPHA to address statewide public housing repair and maintenance needs, and therefore welcomes financial resources from the private sector.

HPHA has concerns, however, regarding its current ability to issue a request for proposal and proceed with renovation of the first housing project by the end of 2008, as urged by this resolution. Furthermore, HPHA must receive approval from the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) for major projects undertaken at federal public housing. Due to these factors in conjunction with ongoing challenges such as an operating budget deficit for FY08 and FY09, HPHA requests that the Legislature allow it to stabilize operations over the next year before actively seeking requests for proposals for public/private partnerships.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



H.C.R. NO. 149

**Urging The Hawaii Public Housing Authority To Issue A Request  
For Proposals To Form A Public/Private Partnership to Renovate  
The State's Public Housing Inventory  
House Committee on Human Services and Housing**

March 20, 2008

9:30 am

Room 329

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The Office of Hawaiian Affairs supports the purpose and intent of HCR 149.

We believe it is not government's sole responsibility to come up with all solutions needed to address the citizens of Hawai'i access to safe, decent, and sanitary housing. We, too, believe it is critical that the public/private partnership with the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority is vital to the success of meeting these housing needs with a "sense of urgency".

As stated above, the support of the purpose and intent of HCR 149 is within this testimony subject to a concern with the first "WHEREAS" on page 2 starting with line one. The State of Hawaii must find ways to partner with public/private partnerships to build public housing because we cannot view all our citizens in public housing will be able to transition out of public housing. Our citizens who are on fixed incomes will not be able to find affordable housing when affordable housing to meet their needs are not being built. HPA should not be ensuring what inventory there is as only transitional housing without research and statistics to prove that all tenants will be able to transition out to available affordable housing.

Therefore, the support of HCR NO 149 is with the deletion of the above mentioned "WHEREAS".

Mahalo nui loa for this opportunity to provide testimony.