
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION TO THE PUBLIC ABOUT
THE VETERANS PREFERENCE FOR TENANT SELECTION IN STATE LOW-
INCOME HOUSING PROJECTS.

1 WHEREAS, government establishes various preferences for
2 certain groups of its citizens in determining who should receive
3 a government service or be benefitted by a government program;
4 and

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6 WHEREAS, these preferences often recognize that certain
7 groups of persons have a greater need for the service or
8 program, and can also be used to encourage individuals to
9 participate in certain activities, and reward and recognize
10 these individuals for their actions; and

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12 WHEREAS, government should encourage individuals to serve
13 their country by enlisting in the military, reward the service
14 and sacrifices of veterans and their families, and recognize the
15 difficulties of veterans in successfully returning to civilian
16 life; and

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18 WHEREAS, providing eligible veterans a housing preference
19 recognizes the service and sacrifices of veterans, and decreases
20 the difficulty of purchasing and providing a home for their
21 families in Hawaii; and

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23 WHEREAS, extending or limiting veterans' preference to
24 widows and widowers of deceased veterans or veterans who are
25 totally or partially disabled strengthens the basis for the
26 preference and focuses it on those who have an even greater need
27 for affordable housing and other government programs and
28 services; and

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30 WHEREAS, under section 356D-42, Hawaii Revised Statutes, in
31 the selection of tenants for state low-income housing projects,
32 the Hawaii Public Housing Authority must give first preference
33 to:

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- 1 (1) Veterans with a permanent disability of ten percent or
- 2 more as certified by the United States Department of
- 3 Veterans Affairs;
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- 5 (2) The dependent parents of the veteran; and
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- 7 (3) The deceased veteran's widow;
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9 and

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11 WHEREAS, information regarding this state law does not
12 appear to be widely available; now, therefore,

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14 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
15 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
16 of 2009, that the Office of Veterans' Affairs and the Hawaii
17 Public Housing Authority are requested to make available to the
18 public by wide distribution, including distribution of written
19 material at locations frequented by veterans and posting on
20 applicable websites offering information about low-income
21 housing or veterans' benefits, information regarding the
22 availability of veterans' preference in state low-income housing
23 projects under state law; and

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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
26 Resolution be transmitted to the Executive Director of the
27 Hawaii Public Housing Authority and the Director of the Office
28 of Veterans' Services.

