HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY TO INSTITUTE A FIVE YEAR MAXIMUM STAY FOR PUBLIC HOUSING.

WHEREAS, the legislature finds that one's environment may lead to a cyclical nature of poverty perpetuating a lifestyle that is inherited from generation to generation; and

WHEREAS, families born into poverty and living in public housing appear hopelessly caught in a self-fulfilling prophecy of perpetual welfare and public housing; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this resolution is to break this vicious cycle urging the Hawaii Public Housing Board to limit public housing tenancies to five years except for veterans, elderly and disabled; and

WHEREAS, although this policy may appear harsh, it is intended to encourage and motivate upward economic mobility from low- to moderate-income for families who are overly dependent on public housing; and

WHEREAS, this policy will promote integrity in the public housing system to prevent "homesteading" and multi-generational tenancy; and

WHEREAS, this policy will also reduce housing fraud for those who take cash jobs and do not report any income; and

WHEREAS, it will also increase the supply of low-income housing to give a fair opportunity to the 14,000 applicants on the waiting list; and

WHEREAS, limiting the tenancies to five years will encourage those on public housing to become self-sufficient within five years; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session

HR CAB 5year maximum stay4

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of 2009, the Hawaii Public Housing Board is urged to institute a five year maximum stay for public housing; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the current public housing tenants be adequately advise of the new policy; and

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8 9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the executive director of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority and the Board members.

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OFFERED BY: Kida

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Jem Word

Denny Coffee Karen Arrana

MAR 1 8 2009