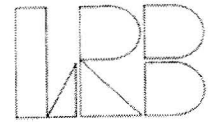


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HCR205 / HR167

REQUESTING A STUDY ON ESTABLISHING A VETERANS PREFERENCE IN AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND OTHER STATE AND COUNTY PROGRAMS

Testimony by the Legislative Reference Bureau
Ken H. Takayama, Director

Presented to the House Committee on Housing

Wednesday, March 25, 2009, 9:00 a.m.
Conference Room 325

Chair Cabanilla and Members of the Committee:

I am Ken H. Takayama, Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau. Thank you for this opportunity to testify on House Concurrent Resolution No. 205. The Bureau takes **no position** either for or against the measure, but offers the following **comments** and requests that the measure be **amended**.

1. This measure, among other things, directs the Bureau to:
 - a. Study the establishment of a veterans' preference in affordable housing and other state and county programs;
 - b. Review criteria for extending the preference to widows and widowers of certain veterans.
2. To the extent that this measure directs a study of veterans' preference in affordable housing programs, we believe the study requested is manageable.
3. However, the Concurrent Resolution also directs the study to encompass "other state and county programs". This requires the study to include all state and county programs, which makes the scope of the study impossibly broad.
4. We therefore request that the measure be amended to:
 - a. Limit its scope to a veterans' preference in affordable housing; and
 - b. Delete any references to "other state and county programs".

Thank you very much for this opportunity to testify.