

MAR 04 2010

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SELF-HELP HOUSING TRUST FUND
ADVISORY BOARD TO PREPARE FOR THE ADMINISTRATION AND
OPERATION OF A SELF-HELP HOUSING TRUST FUND.

1 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that self-help housing
2 programs such as Habitat for Humanity and Hawaii Self-Help
3 Housing offer low- and moderate-income families an opportunity
4 to own their own homes by using "sweat equity" to build their
5 homes; and

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7 WHEREAS, when families build their own homes their
8 financial stability greatly improves, the children do better in
9 school, and the families rarely move, which often provides
10 increased employment opportunities; and

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12 WHEREAS, self-help housing is a hand up from circumstances
13 that frequently lead to homelessness, and a number of self-help
14 housing homeowners in Hawaii had been homeless prior to building
15 their homes; and

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17 WHEREAS, although the State has opened many new shelters to
18 address the rapid rise in homelessness, a common problem that
19 remains is a lack of places where people can stay during their
20 transition from a shelter or other transitional housing; and

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22 WHEREAS, self-help housing offers a dignified alternative
23 to some of the families transitioning out of homelessness and
24 provides homeless prevention to families who are living in
25 precarious circumstances; and

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27 WHEREAS, self-help housing is not only more cost effective
28 than shelters or rental housing, but it also provides economic
29 and community development in neighborhoods and is one of the
30 best sources of asset building with very low-, low-, and
31 moderate-income households; and
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1 WHEREAS, there are eight existing organizations in Hawaii
2 that have assisted in building more than one thousand self-help
3 homes: Habitat for Humanity, Self-Help Housing Corporation of
4 Hawaii, Hawaii Island Community Development Corporation, Hawaii
5 Intergenerational Community Development Association, the
6 Consuelo Foundation, Molokai Home Ownership Made E-ffordable
7 Corporation, Hawaii County Economic Opportunity Council, and
8 Lokahi Pacific; and

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10 WHEREAS, the average cost of a house built in Hawaii with
11 the self-help method varies by program but generally falls in
12 the range of \$80,000 to \$110,000; and

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14 WHEREAS, self-help housing programs attempt to build as
15 much as possible on leasehold land from the Department of
16 Hawaiian Home Lands, the State, or the counties; are sometimes
17 offered land or money to buy land by developers who are required
18 to meet a certain threshold of affordable homes; and may buy
19 inexpensive lands when available; and

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21 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that establishing a
22 dedicated source of funding through a self-help housing trust
23 fund would provide grant funding for technical assistance and
24 construction materials and possibly grants or low- or zero-
25 interest loans for predevelopment costs and the purchase of land
26 to build on; now, therefore,

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28 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth
29 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010, the
30 House of Representatives concurring, that the Hawaii Housing
31 Finance and Development Corporation is requested to establish a
32 Self-Help Housing Trust Fund Advisory Board to prepare for the
33 administration and operation of a self-help housing trust fund
34 by:

- 35
36 (1) Identifying potential target groups and clientele to
37 whom loans or grants should be made to promote the
38 development of self-help housing in the State;
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40 (2) Developing criteria for selecting recipients of grants
41 and loans from the proposed self-help housing trust
42 fund;
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- 1 (3) Developing a process by which applications for grants
2 and loans from the proposed self-help housing trust
3 fund shall be made;
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- 5 (4) Developing a process by which grant and loan
6 applications shall be evaluated, awarded, and
7 executed;
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- 9 (5) Determining sustainable sources of funding for the
10 proposed self-help housing trust fund; and
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- 12 (6) Performing other tasks necessary to prepare for the
13 administration and operation of the proposed self-help
14 housing trust fund; and
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Self-Help Housing Trust
17 Fund Advisory Board be composed of the following members:
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- 19 (1) A representative of Habitat for Humanity;
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- 21 (2) A representative of the Self-Help Housing Corporation
22 of Hawaii;
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- 24 (3) A representative of the Hawaii Island Community
25 Development Corporation;
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- 27 (4) A representative of the Hawaii Intergenerational
28 Community Development Association;
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- 30 (5) A representative of the Consuelo Foundation;
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- 32 (6) A representative of the Molokai Home Ownership Made
33 E-ffordable Corporation;
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- 35 (7) A representative of the Hawaii County Economic
36 Opportunity Council;
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- 38 (8) A representative of Lokahi Pacific;
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- 40 (9) A representative of the Hawaii Housing Finance and
41 Development Corporation; and
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(10) Two representatives selected by the other members of the Advisory Board to contribute their expertise to the Advisory Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Self-Help Housing Trust Fund Advisory Board is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2011; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation provide administrative support to the Self-Help Housing Trust Fund Advisory Board; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Self-Help Housing Trust Fund Advisory Board be dissolved upon the adjournment sine die of the 2011 Regular Session of the Legislature; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Executive Director of the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation, Habitat for Humanity, Self-Help Housing Corporation of Hawaii, Hawaii Island Community Development Corporation, Hawaii Intergenerational Community Development Association, the Consuelo Foundation, Molokai Home Ownership Made E-ffordable Corporation, Hawaii County Economic Opportunity Council, and Lokahi Pacific.

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