



LATE TESTIMONY

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
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GOVERNOR

Written Testimony of
Linda L. Smith
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Before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

Wednesday, February 3, 2010, 9:00 AM
State Capitol, Room 325

H.B.2568 RELATING TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY

Chair Cabanilla, Vice Chair Chong, and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **support** of this bill, which reduces the quorum requirements for the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA).

The HPHA Board of Directors sets policies for the State's public housing, Section 8 rental subsidy, and homeless programs. The Board is statutorily required to have eleven members, seven of which must be present to constitute a quorum. This threshold requires an excess of the majority of board members to be present. This differs from most state boards and commission, such as the Board of Directors of the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation, Board of Land and Natural Resources, and Board of Education, which require a majority of members to be present.

Accordingly, this bill reduces the quorum requirement for HPHA's Board of Directors from seven to six members, which constitutes a majority. This change will align HPHA's quorum requirement with that of other state boards. It will also ensure that the HPHA Board is able to conduct business in a timely manner, while maintaining the spirit of Hawaii's Sunshine Law (Chapter 92, HRS).

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.