

**SB 2277, SD1**

LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR



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Statement of  
**Barbara E. Arashiro**  
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Before the

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**

February 24, 2010 10:00 A.M.  
Room 211, Hawaii State Capitol

In consideration of  
**S.B. 2277 S.D. 1**  
**RELATING TO THE HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY**

The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) supports S.B. 2277, S.D.1 which would remove unnecessary and costly delays in the eviction process for public housing. This bill would establish in state law the eviction process required by federal public housing regulations, which already includes appropriate due process and procedural requirements.

The current statute regarding evictions imposes requirements beyond those of federal regulations for public housing. The current system of notices, warnings, waiting periods and delays is duplicative and unnecessarily long. Tenants are notified of the overdue rent and given ample opportunity to set up a payment plan to become current. The eviction process, in practice, does not begin until a tenant is far behind in rent and is not cooperating in setting up a payment plan to catch up on the arrears.

Delays in the process result in more lost rent revenue, more damage to property and, in cases where behavioral problems cause the eviction, more danger or disruption to other tenants. It also delays the availability of the housing unit to the thousands of people on waiting lists for housing.