
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY TO DEVELOP AND
IMPLEMENT A SUSTAINABLE PLAN TO REPAIR ALL PUBLIC HOUSING
UNITS IN NEED OF MAINTENANCE.

1 WHEREAS, the current fiscal climate has resulted in high
2 unemployment rates, with many families losing income sources;
3 and
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5 WHEREAS, without viable sources of income, these families
6 have been unable to pay for housing costs, dramatically
7 increasing the homeless population and the need for reasonably-
8 priced public housing; and
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10 WHEREAS, even without the additional strain on the public
11 housing system caused by the economy, there is a significant
12 wait list for available public housing units; and
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14 WHEREAS, the availability of clean, safe, and decent
15 housing can play a vital role in an individual's emergence from
16 poverty; and
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18 WHEREAS, according to the January 2010 "State Occupancy
19 Report," only 24 of 364 vacant units were "rent ready" and
20 available for immediate occupancy; and
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22 WHEREAS, including those units that are currently occupied,
23 much of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority's (HPHA) inventory
24 of affordable housing projects is nearly 60 years old and in a
25 state of disrepair and deterioration; and
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27 WHEREAS, the State's limited fiscal resources have been
28 compounding the problem of deteriorating public housing, as
29 cost-cutting efforts have resulted in both the acquisition of
30 minimal quality infrastructure and an inability to maintain that
31 infrastructure on an ongoing basis; and



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1 WHEREAS, the most recent example of this is the deleterious
 2 state of the hot water heating system at the Mayor Wright public
 3 housing complex; and
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5 WHEREAS, HPHA's current five-year plan, approved by the
 6 United States Department of Housing and Urban Development,
 7 includes provisions to improve tenant rent collection to allow
 8 for more repair and renovation of existing public housing units;
 9 and
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11 WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes that the HPHA Board, in
 12 its efforts to provide lower income families with decent, safe,
 13 and sanitary housing, has been actively exploring ways to
 14 accomplish the renovation and repair of the State's public
 15 housing inventory; now, therefore,
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17 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 18 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
 19 of 2011, that this body urges the Hawaii Public Housing
 20 Authority to develop and implement a sustainable plan to repair
 21 all public housing units in need of maintenance; and
 22


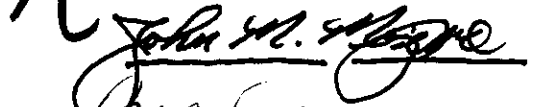

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that HPHA is urged to consider how
 24 necessary renovations and maintenance may be undertaken at
 25 reduced or no cost through collaboration with the Department of
 26 Public Safety, the construction trades, and other relevant
 27 entities; and
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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that HPHA is requested to report to
 30 the Legislature no later than 20 days prior to the convening of
 31 the Regular Session of 2012 on the development and
 32 implementation of the sustainable plan to repair all public
 33 housing units in need of maintenance; and
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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 36 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Chairperson of the
 37 Hawaii Public Housing Authority Board of Directors, and the
 38 Director of Public Safety.
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 41



OFFERED BY:

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