
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY TO ADOPT RULES TO
PROHIBIT SMOKING IN ALL FEDERAL AND STATE PUBLIC HOUSING
PROJECTS IN THE STATE.

1 WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,
2 the lead federal agency for comprehensive tobacco control, cites
3 tobacco use as the single most preventable cause of disease,
4 disability, and death in the United States; and

5
6 WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and
7 Prevention, each year, an estimated 443,000 people die
8 prematurely from smoking or exposure to secondhand smoke, and
9 another 8,600,000 people live with a serious illness caused by
10 smoking; and

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12 WHEREAS, in response to the risks posed to nonsmokers by
13 secondhand smoke, indoor smoking bans are being adopted
14 nationwide; and

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16 WHEREAS, in a July 17, 2009, memorandum, recognizing that
17 secondhand smoke can migrate between units in multifamily
18 housing, the United States Department of Housing and Urban
19 Development encouraged public housing authorities to implement
20 non-smoking policies in some or all of their public housing
21 units; and

22
23 WHEREAS, according to the Smoke-Free Environmental Law
24 Project of the Center for Social Gerontology, an anti-smoking
25 group funded by the Michigan Department of Health, there are at
26 least 221 public housing authorities and housing commissions
27 across the country that have implemented non-smoking policies in
28 public housing projects, including authorities in Alaska,
29 California, Colorado, Maine, Michigan, New York, and Texas; and



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1 WHEREAS, making public housing projects in the State smoke-
 2 free will lessen fire hazards, decrease cleaning costs, enhance
 3 the upkeep of public housing units, and support the health and
 4 well-being of public housing tenants; now, therefore,
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6 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 7 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
 8 of 2012, the Senate concurring, that Hawaii Public Housing
 9 Authority is urged to adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91, Hawaii
 10 Revised Statutes (HRS), to prohibit smoking in all federal
 11 housing projects, as defined in section 356D-1, HRS, and state
 12 low-income housing projects as defined in section 356D-51, HRS,
 13 respectively, in the State; and
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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Hawaii Public Housing Authority
 16 is requested to complete the process of adopting and publishing
 17 its rules no later than July 1, 2013; and
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Hawaii Public Housing Authority
 20 is requested to submit to the Legislature no later than 20 days
 21 prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2013, a report
 22 of its progress in adopting rules that prohibit smoking in all
 23 federal and state public housing projects in the State; and
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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 26 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Human
 27 Services and the Executive Director of Hawaii Public Housing
 28 Authority.
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