

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



HAKIM OUANSAFI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY
1002 NORTH SCHOOL STREET
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

BARBARA E. ARASHIRO
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Statement of
Hakim Ouansafi
Hawaii Public Housing Authority
Before the

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

February 23, 2012 3:30 P.M.
Room 308, Hawaii State Capitol

In consideration of
House Bill No. 755, House Draft 2
Relating to Public Housing

Honorable Chair and Members of the House Committee on Finance, thank you for the opportunity to provide you with comments regarding House Bill No. 755 as amended by House Draft 2, relating to public housing.

The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) supports enactment of the measure. This legislation would revise Section 356D-92, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), to allow the HPHA to conform eviction procedures to federal law. It would further modify Section 356D-93, HRS, to enable the HPHA to conduct hearings with less than three members if the HPHA encounters difficulty establishing.

This measure would assist the HPHA in streamlining eviction procedures that are utilized to remove lease violators from Federal Low Income Public Housing administered by our agency. It is important to note that, while the measure removes a number of statutory provisions, it does not dilute or eliminate any required due process protections available to tenants in public housing. Evictions from Federal public housing would remain subject to the duly adopted protections afforded by 24 C.F.R. Part 966 as well as Chapter 17-2020, Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR). 24 C.F.R. Part 966 is a regulation of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development that details evictions procedures that must apply to all public housing nationwide. Chapter 17-2020, HAR follows the current statutory language of Section 356D-92, and would remain in force until amended by the HPHA in consultation with residents, the Attorney General, and other important stakeholders.

Hawaii Public Housing Authority
February 23, 2012
Page 2

The HPHA appreciates the opportunity to provide the House Committee on Finance with the agency's position regarding H.B. No. 755, H.D. 2. We respectfully request the Committee to pass this measure favorably, and we thank you very much for your dedicated support.

FINTestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 11:22 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: info@schha.com
Subject: Testimony for HB755 on 2/23/2012 3:30:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 2/23/2012 3:30:00 PM HB755

Conference room: 308
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Annie Au Hoon, President
Organization: Kewalo Hawaiian Homestead Community Assn., SCHHA
E-mail: info@schha.com
Submitted on: 2/22/2012

Comments: