

# SB 2805

Measure Title: RELATING TO PUBLIC HOUSING.

Report Title: Public Housing; Hawaii Public Housing Authority; Board of Directors;  
Resident Board Member Nomination

Description: Reduces the minimum number of resident board member candidates from five to three that must be submitted by the Resident Advisory Board of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority for consideration by the Governor for appointment to the Authority's Board of Directors.

Companion: HB2543

Package: Gov

Current Referral: HMS

Introducer(s): TSUTSUI (BR)

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR



PATRICIA MCMANAMAN  
DIRECTOR

BARBARA YAMASHITA  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

P. O. Box 339  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

February 8, 2012

TO: The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair  
Senate Committee on Human Services

FROM: Patricia McManaman, Director

SUBJECT: **S.B. 2805 – RELATING TO PUBLIC HOUSING**

Hearing: Thursday, February 9, 2012; 1:30 p.m.  
Conference Room 016, State Capitol

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of S.B. 2805 is to allow the Resident Advisory Board of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) to provide a list of at least three but no more than five names of individuals to the Governor for consideration for appointment to the resident member seat on the HPHA Board of Directors.

**DEPARTMENT'S POSITION:** The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports S.B. 2805 because it will allow flexibility in providing a list with fewer than the five names that are currently required to be submitted to the Governor. When a vacancy occurs for the resident member seat on the HPHA Board of Directors, section 356D-6(a), Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), requires the Resident Advisory Board of the HPHA to submit a list of five names for consideration by the Governor for appointment to the Board. In situations where there are less than five interested individuals, the Resident Advisory Board is unable to provide a list to the Governor for consideration. This may cause the resident member seat on the HPHA Board to

remain vacant for extended periods. This, in turn, deprives the residents of their voice on the HPHA Board and endangers the receipt of Federal funds since the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires the HPHA to have a resident member on its Board.

By amending HRS section 356D-6(a) to submit a list of at least three but no more than five names to the Governor, the Resident Advisory Board is better positioned to provide qualified candidates while still providing a diverse selection for the Governor's consideration. This amendment will also help HPHA to be in conformance with HUD's requirement of having a resident member in the HPHA Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this bill.

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

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES**

February 9, 2012 1:30 P.M.  
Room 016, Hawaii State Capitol

In consideration of  
**Senate Bill No. 2805**  
**Relating to Public Housing**

Honorable Chair and Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services, thank you for the opportunity to provide you with comments regarding Senate Bill No. 2805, relating to public housing.

The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) supports enactment of this measure which would amend Section 356D-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), to provide the HPHA Resident Advisory Board (RAB) with more flexibility in nominating the resident member of the Board of Directors.

When a vacancy occurs for the resident member seat on the HPHA Board of Directors, Section 356D-6, HRS, requires the RAB to develop a list of interested, qualified individuals for consideration by the Governor for appointment to the Board. The current statutory section requires the RAB to provide the names of five individuals. In situations where there are not five interested individuals, the RAB is unable to provide a list to the Governor for consideration, which can cause the resident member seat on the Board of Directors to remain vacant for extended periods.

This, in turn, deprives the residents of their voice on the Board of Directors and endangers the receipt of Federal funds since the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires the Board of Directors to have a resident member. By amending the statute section to allow the RAB to submit a list of at least three but no more than five names to the Governor, the RAB is better positioned to provide the most serious, qualified, and interested candidates while still providing a diverse selection for the Governor's consideration. This statutory amendment has been requested specifically by the RAB to improve the fulfillment of their statutory functions.

Hawaii Public Housing Authority  
February 9, 2012  
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The HPHA appreciates the opportunity to provide the Senate Committee on Human Services with the agency's position regarding S.B. No. 2805. We respectfully request the Committee to pass this measure favorably, and we thank you very much for your dedicated support.

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 05, 2012 11:54 AM  
**To:** HMS Testimony  
**Cc:** Brenda.Kosky@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2805 on 2/9/2012 1:30:00 PM

Testimony for HMS 2/9/2012 1:30:00 PM SB2805

Conference room: 016  
Testifier position: Support  
Testifier will be present: No  
Submitted by: Brenda Kosky  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [Brenda.Kosky@gmail.com](mailto:Brenda.Kosky@gmail.com)  
Submitted on: 2/5/2012

Comments:

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 04, 2012 12:43 PM  
**To:** HMS Testimony  
**Cc:** robertscottwall@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Testimony for SB2805 on 2/9/2012 1:30:00 PM

Testimony for HMS 2/9/2012 1:30:00 PM SB2805

Conference room: 016  
Testifier position: Oppose  
Testifier will be present: Yes  
Submitted by: Scott Wall  
Organization: Individual  
E-mail: [robertscottwall@yahoo.com](mailto:robertscottwall@yahoo.com)  
Submitted on: 2/4/2012

**Comments:**

I oppose anything that reduces consumer representation and participation.