

# **HB 536, HD1**

Measure Title: RELATING TO PUBLIC HOUSING.

Report Title: Public Housing Authority; Home Ownership; Eligibility

Description: Authorizes the Hawaii Public Housing Authority to disqualify any applicant or tenant from state low-income housing if the applicant, tenant, or a household member owns or acquires a home within the State. Effective July 1, 2030. (HB536 HD1)

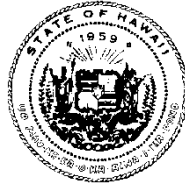
Companion:

Package: None

Current Referral: HMS, WAM

Introducer(s): CABANILLA, COFFMAN, CULLEN, ICHIYAMA, ITO, KAWAKAMI, OSHIRO, SAY, TAKAYAMA, TOKIOKA, YAMASHITA

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR



HAKIM OUANSAFI  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY  
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BARBARA E. ARASHIRO  
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Statement of  
**Hakim Ouansafi**  
Hawaii Public Housing Authority  
Before the

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES**

March 14, 2013 1:20 P.M.  
Room 016, Hawaii State Capitol

In consideration of

**House Bill 536, House Draft 1**  
**Relating to Public Housing**

Honorable Chair Chun Oakland and Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services, thank you for the opportunity to provide you with comments regarding House Bill (H.B.) 536, House Draft (HD) 1, relating to public housing.

The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) supports enactment of this measure which prohibits the admission or requires the termination of tenancy of any person who owns or acquires a home within the state.

Under the current statute, the HPHA is not able to consider whether an applicant is a homeowner. The HPHA is committed to serving the neediest of Hawaii's residents and have over 10,000 families on our waitlist. By allowing HPHA to deny admission or terminate the tenancy of an individual or family who owns or acquires a home, the HPHA will be able to house those who truly have no other means of shelter.

The HPHA appreciates the opportunity to provide the Senate Committee on Human Services with the agency's position regarding H.B. 536 HD1. We respectfully request the Committee to pass this measure favorably, and we thank you very much for your dedicated support.

HOMELESS / AFFORDABLE HOUSING INSTITUTE (HAHI)  
Senate Committee On Human Services  
Thursday, March 14, 2013 at 1:20 PM ; State Capitol, CR 016  
Testimony in Support of HB 536 HD1

Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair  
Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair and Members of HMS

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 536 HD1. The purpose of this bill is to establish stricter assets guidelines to be eligible for Public Housing.

The HOMELESS & AFFORDABLE HOUSING INSTITUTE (HAHI) supports enactment of this measure which prohibits the admission or requires the termination of tenancy of any person who owns or acquires a home within the state.

Under the current statute, the HPHA is not able to consider whether an applicant is a homeowner. The state should be serving the most needy of Hawaii's residents and have over 16,000 families on our waitlist.

By allowing HPHA to deny admission or terminate the tenancy of an individual or family who owns or acquires a home, the HPHA will be able to house those who truly have no other means of shelter.

The HPHA will be able to prioritize its efforts on housing those who truly have no other resources to obtain housing.

I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

Thank you very much for your support.