

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



KAREN SEDDON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM
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IN REPLY REFER TO:

Statement of
Karen Seddon
Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation
Before the

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS

February 15, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 312

In consideration of
H.B. 560, H.D. 1
RELATING TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING URBAN GARDENING.

The HHFDC ***supports the intent*** of H.B. 560, H.D. 1, which authorizes HHFDC and HCDA to develop incentives for the development of housing projects that incorporate urban gardening, utilizing the expertise of the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



HAWAII COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY



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STATEMENT OF

ANTHONY J. H. CHING, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
HAWAII COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

BEFORE THE

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS

AND

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE

February 15, 2013

10:00 A.M.

State Capitol, Conference Room 312

in consideration of

**H.B. 560 H.D. 1 – RELATING TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING URBAN
GARDENING.**

Purpose: Authorizes the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC) and the Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA) to develop programs that provide incentives for the development of housing projects that incorporate urban gardening programs.

Position: While supporting the intent of this measure, I provide the following comments. It should be noted that this testimony reflects only my viewpoint as the Authority has not yet had an opportunity to review and act as a group on this measure.

Currently, the administrative rules governing both the Kakaako (§15-217-59 HAR) and Kalaeloa (§15-215-48 HAR) Community Development Districts contain a section providing standards for Green Building. This section of rule seeks to produce “responsible development pattern that conserves natural resources and provides a healthy environment for inhabitants”.

Testimony reflects the view and position of the Executive Director and not that of the Authority.

This section applies to all new buildings and additions and renovations of existing buildings that increase the floor area by 25% or more.

Therefore, it is my belief that this existing standard and rule for new developments within community development districts that are administered by the HCDA adequately promote green building standards that include techniques such as urban gardening. This is accomplished by requiring that the developer document the achievement of at least one LEED [(Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) a green building rating system developed by the U.S. Green Building Council that provides a suite of standards for the environmentally sustainable design, construction and operation of buildings and neighborhoods] point in:

- Sustainable sites, heat-island effect, non-roof, or roof;
- Water efficiency, water efficient landscaping; and
- Sustainable sites, stormwater design or quantity control.

Developers can utilize roof top urban gardens and gardening activities to achieve LEED points in reducing the heat island effect/non-roof; water efficient landscaping and sustainable site design. HCDA staff currently make this recommendation to developers when reviewing development permit applications. The HCDA notes the current rules establish a development standard that promotes environmentally green activities, such as urban gardening, for all development (whether affordable or for market).

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this legislative proposal.

edbtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 13, 2013 11:00 AM
To: edbtestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB560 on Feb 15, 2013 10:00AM*

HB560

Submitted on: 2/13/2013

Testimony for EDB on Feb 15, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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edbt testimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
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HB560

Submitted on: 2/13/2013

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kristin Herrick	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As a environmentally conscious member of our community's young generation, I strongly support the intent of the HB 560, which seeks to incentivize environmentally-conscious development at a time when the State has a unique opportunity to reincorporate Native Hawaiian values and to distinguish itself as an international leader in sustainable green development. In an Island community with limited space and abundant environmental capital, it is vitally important to invest time and energy now into promoting green building projects. Urban gardens not only add to the Island's overall aesthetic, but also help to build community ties by emphasizing a traditional sense of duty, ownership and pride in our land. In addition, the Bill would help to preserve Native Hawaiian ecosystems and address global warming, while still providing for development to meet the demand for affordable housing. Urban gardens may also help address and provide ownership of food security issues where farmland is so rare and expensive. I also support the suggestion that the legislation's definition of credits be specifically defined to avoid abuse and to ensure that the legislation's intent remains binding at the implementation stage. I urge you to take this opportunity to distinguish the State as a leader in Green building practices and to preserve our natural aesthetic if not for yourselves, than for your children and future generations. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in favor of this Bill.

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Cc: tabraham08@gmail.com
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HB560

Submitted on: 2/13/2013

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Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Troy Abraham	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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