



LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®

League of Women Voters of Hawaii

49 South Hotel Street, Room 314 | Honolulu, HI 96813

www.lwv-hawaii.com | 808.531.7488 | voters@lwvhawaii.com

HOUSING COMMITTEE
Rep. Rida T.R. Cabanilla, Chair
Rep. Justin H. Woodson, Vice Chair

January 28, 2013 8:45 am House conference room 329
HB 560 RELATING TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING URBAN GARDENING
Authorizes the HHFDC and HCDA to develop programs to issue development credits to projects that incorporate urban gardening programs. Requires HHFDC and HCDA to report to the legislature.

TESTIMONY
(Shelly Tamang), Legislative Committee Member, League of Women Voters of Hawaii

Chair Cabanilla, Vice-Chair Woodson, and Committee Members:

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii supports Bill 560 which authorizes the Hawaii housing finance and development corporation and the Hawaii community development authority to develop programs to issue development credits to projects that incorporate urban gardening programs.

Community gardens contribute to the quality of urban life and enhance the environment through beautification. Urban gardening provides this added value to a community, not through an expense to the city or the county, but through the effort of the community members who are doing the work to upkeep and maintain the garden. Urban gardens provide educational opportunities for youth who might not otherwise be exposed to agriculture and may provide a recreational pastime for the elderly, while offering healthy nutrition options for all.

We urge you to pass this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.