

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY
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Statement of
Hakim Ouansafi
Hawaii Public Housing Authority
Before the

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

February 4, 2013 8:45 A.M.
Room 329, Hawaii State Capitol

In consideration of
House Bill No. 742
Relating to Public Housing

Honorable Chair and Members of the House Committee on Housing, thank you for the opportunity to provide you with comments regarding House Bill 742, relating to public housing.

The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) supports the enactment of this measure, which would add a new section to part III of Chapter 356D, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), and allow the HPHA to delete from its accounts receivable the records of delinquent accounts for vacated units within the state low-income public housing program that have been delinquent for over ninety days, and allow those delinquent accounts to be assigned to a collection agency.

Section 356D-32 (a) and (b), HRS, currently allows the HPHA to delete from its accounts receivable the records of delinquent accounts for vacated units within the federal low-income public housing program that have been delinquent for over ninety days, and allow those delinquent accounts to be assigned to a collection agency.

Due to the fact that there are no similar statutory provisions for the administration of the state low-income public housing program, any account receivable must be delinquent for more than two years and meet the requirements of section 40-82, HRS.

In the interest of consistency across program administration for the HPHA and its property managers, the HPHA humbly requests provisions for state low-income public housing program administration similar to section 356D-32 (a) and (b), HRS.

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Although we have improved our accounts receivable by \$2,800,000 and our account uncollectible by \$2,025,583, we believe that this measure will create a single, consistent, streamlined process that would allow all parties involved to maintain accurate records and pursue delinquent debts owed to the HPHA.

The HPHA appreciates the opportunity to provide the House Committee on Housing with the agency's position regarding H.B. No. 742. We respectfully request the Committee to pass this measure favorably, and we thank you very much for your dedicated support.