

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



HAKIM OUANSAFI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

LATE TESTIMONY

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

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

February 22, 2013 1:30 P.M.
Room 308, Hawaii State Capitol

In consideration of
House Bill No. 742, House Draft 1
Relating to Public Housing

Honorable Chair Luke and Members of the House Committee on Finance, thank you for the opportunity to provide you with comments regarding House Bill (HB) 742, House Draft (HD) 1, 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.

Although we have improved our accounts receivable by \$2,800,000 and our accounts 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 Finance with the agency's position regarding H.B. No. 742 HD1. We respectfully request the Committee to pass this measure favorably, and we thank you very much for your dedicated support.