

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY
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BARBARA E. ARASHIRO
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Statement of
Hakim Ouansafi
Hawaii Public Housing Authority
Before the

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

March 11, 2013 9:00 A.M.
Room 329, Hawaii State Capitol

In consideration of

Senate Bill 305, Senate Draft 1
Relating to Development of Public Housing

Honorable Chair Cabanilla, and Members of the House Committee on Housing, thank you for the opportunity to provide you with comments regarding Senate Bill (S.B.) 305, Senate Draft (SD) 1 relating to development of public housing.

The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) supports enactment of this measure, which would authorize the HPHA to develop commercial and industrial properties in connection with the development of public housing dwelling units.

Currently, Chapter 356D-11 Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) allows the HPHA to develop several different classes of land such as public land in agricultural districts, and certain federal lands. The agency believes that this statutory amendment will further enhance the HPHA's ability to serve our low income residents by providing more development options that could also benefit the surrounding communities in which those properties are situated.

The HPHA appreciates the opportunity to provide the House Committee on Housing with the agency's position regarding S.B. 305, SD1. We respectfully request the Committee to pass this measure favorably, and we thank you very much for your dedicated support.

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GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

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**Testimony of
WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on
HOUSING**

**Monday, March 11, 2013
9:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 225**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 305, SENATE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC HOUSING**

Senate Bill 305, Senate Draft 1 proposes to facilitate the development of public housing projects in the agricultural and conservation state land use districts. **While the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) appreciates the actions of the Legislature to facilitate the development of public housing, the Department nonetheless has concerns with this measure in its current form.**

The regulation of conservation district land is administered by the Board of Land and Natural under Chapter 183C, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) and Title 13-5, Hawaii Administrative Rules. We would like to note that multi-family residential development is generally inconsistent with the purpose of the conservation district. Under findings and purpose, Section 183C-1, HRS,:

“The legislature finds that lands within the state land use conservation district contain important natural resources essential to the preservation of the State’s fragile natural ecosystems and the sustainability of the State’s water supply. It is therefore the intent of the legislature to conserve, protect, and preserve the important natural resources of the state through appropriate management and use to promote their long-term sustainability and the public health, safety and welfare.”

While public housing projects are not expressively prohibited in the conservation district we feel that it would be very challenging to justify high density developments like public housing in our most important natural areas. As such, the Department respectfully asks to amend this measure to eliminate any reference to conservation district lands. Another option would be to re-classify

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DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
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CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

conservation lands to a land use district in which public housing projects would be appropriate.
Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.