

SB 83

Measure Title: RELATING TO THE HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY.

Report Title: Hawaii Public Housing Authority; Public Housing; Nonprofit Organizations and Government Agencies

Description: Authorizes the Hawaii public housing authority to retain dwelling units in housing projects for lease or rent by nonprofit organizations and government agencies and to provide for the development of community facilities for lease or rent to nonprofit organizations and government agencies.

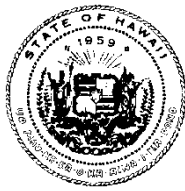
Companion:

Package: Housing and Homeless

Current Referral: HMS, WAM

Introducer(s): CHUN OAKLAND, GALUTERIA, GREEN, RUDERMAN, Dela Cruz, Gabbard, Kahele, Shimabukuro, L. Thielen

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



HAKIM OUANSAFI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

January 26, 2013 1:15 P.M.
Room 229, Hawaii State Capitol

In consideration of
Senate Bill 83
Relating to the Hawaii Public Housing Authority

Honorable Chair and Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services, thank you for the opportunity to provide you with comments regarding Senate Bill (S.B.) 83, relating to the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) supports enactment of this measure, which would authorize the HPHA to retain dwelling units in housing projects for lease or rent by nonprofit organizations and government agencies, and provide for the development of community facilities for lease or rent to nonprofit organizations and government agencies.

The HPHA works with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the State of Hawaii legislature, and non-profit service providers to meet the needs of Hawaii's most vulnerable populations, e.g., the elderly, disabled, and extremely low-income households.

By allowing the HPHA to lease or rent dwelling units and community facilities in our Asset Management Projects (AMPs), we will be able to provide much needed support services that our tenants might not otherwise be able to receive, and have them located in a convenient and central location.

Services such as social self-sufficiency classes and job training are programs that the HPHA used to administer in our AMPs, and were previously funded through a grant from HUD. Unfortunately, we no longer receive this funding, and are trying to find creative ways to bring these non-profit services back to our residents.

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The HPHA appreciates the opportunity to provide the Senate Committee on Human Services with the agency's position regarding S.B. 83. We respectfully request the Committee to pass this measure favorably, and we thank you very much for your dedicated support.