



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P.O. Box 3378
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:
File:

House Committee on Housing

S.B. 94, Relating to Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness

Testimony of Loretta J. Fuddy, A.C.S.W., M.P.H.
Director of Health

March 18, 2013, 9:45 a.m.

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health (DOH) supports this measure.

2 **Purpose and Justification:** The purpose of S.B. 94 is to add the Executive Director of the Hawaii
3 Public Housing Authority (HPHA) to the Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness (HICH).

4 The HICH has been an effective agent in developing plans and actions to respond to the
5 challenge of finding permanent housing for Hawaii's homeless citizens. Adding the executive director
6 of the HPHA will enhance the diversity of the HICH's membership and bring a unique perspective to
7 the work of the group. This addition will improve the scope and quality of the HICH's work. The DOH
8 has been and will continue to be an involved participant in the important work of the HICH.

9 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

March 18, 2013

TO: The Honorable Rida T.R. Cabanilla, Chair
House Committee on Housing

FROM: Patricia McManaman, Director

SUBJECT: **S.B. 94 – RELATING TO THE HAWAII INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS**

Hearing: Monday, March 18, 2013; 9:45 a.m.
Conference Room 329, State Capitol

PURPOSE: The purpose of H.B. 94 is to add the Executive Director of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) to the Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness.

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports this bill to add the Executive Director of the HPHA as a member of the Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness (HICH).

The addition of the Executive Director of the HPHA to the Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness will increase the communication, collaboration, and coordination of the work of the HICH, will promote increased efficiency and effectiveness amongst all of its members, and will enable the creation and implementation of more robust, relevant, and comprehensive plans to end homelessness in Hawaii.

The Hawaii Public Housing Authority's (HPHA) mission is to provide safe, decent, sanitary, and affordable housing to extremely low income Hawaii residents. It administers

and manages the Federal Public Housing Program, the State of Hawaii Public Housing Program, the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program, the State of Hawaii Rental Supplement Program, and the Elderly Housing Program. HPHA's involvement, insight, and collaboration with other members of the Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness (HICH) are crucial to addressing the affordable housing needs of Hawaii's low income citizens, some who are homeless or on the brink of homelessness.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



HAKIM OUANSAFI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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 HOUSING

March 18, 2013 9:45A.M.
Room 329, Hawaii State Capitol

In consideration of

Senate Bill 94
Relating to the Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness

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.) 94, relating to public housing program administration.

The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) appreciates the intent of this measure, which would add the executive director of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority to the Hawaii interagency council on homelessness, and will defer to the committee on its decision.

The HPHA stands ready to assist and be a part of solving the homeless issue. The agency supports and appreciates all of the hard work that the Hawaii interagency council on homelessness has performed, and hopes to be a part of that solution.

The HPHA appreciates the opportunity to provide the House Committee on Housing with the agency's position regarding S.B. 94. Thank you for your continued support.