

SCR 60

Measure Title: URGING THE HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY TO INITIATE THE SPONSORSHIP PROCESS FOR THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT "STEP-UP" PROGRAM TO PROVIDE NEW EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR PUBLIC HOUSING RESIDENTS AND OTHER LOW-INCOME PEOPLE.

Report Title: "Step-Up" Program; Hawaii Public Housing Authority; Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

Description:

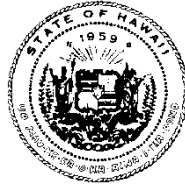
Companion:

Package: None

Current Referral: HMS, JDL

Introducer(s): CHUN OAKLAND, Baker, Dela Cruz, Galuteria, Green, Ruderman, Shimabukuro, L. Thielen

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



HAKIM OUANSAFI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
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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

March 28, 2013 1:30 P.M.
Room 016, Hawaii State Capitol

In consideration of

Senate Concurrent Resolution 60

Urging the Hawaii Public Housing Authority to Initiate the Sponsorship Process for the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development "Step-Up" Program to Provide new Employment and Training Programs for Public Housing Residents and other Low-Income People

Honorable Chair Chun Oakland and Members of the Senate Committee on Human Services, thank you for the opportunity to provide you with comments regarding Senate Concurrent Resolution (SCR) 60, urging the Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) to initiate the sponsorship process for the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) "Step-Up" program to provide new employment and training programs for public housing residents and other low-income people.

The HPHA supports the intent of SCR 60. The HPHA has initiated the process to be a sponsor for the HUD "Step-Up" program and is working with all parties involved to provide our low-income public housing residents and other low-income people with employment and job training programs.

The HPHA appreciates the opportunity to provide the Senate Committee on Human Services with the agency's comments regarding SCR 60. Thank you very much for your dedicated support.

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Network Enterprises, Inc.

March 28, 2013

Testimony of Rene Berthiaume, V.P. Network Enterprises, Inc., in support of SCR60

Senate Human Services Committee, Chair-Senator Chun Oakland and Members of the Senate Human Services Committee

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SCR60. It is very exciting for me to testify on this resolution as I have advocated for many years for the establishment of a 'Step-up' program within the Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA). My interest comes from over 43 years of experience in Hawaii with programs that provide employment and training opportunities for those least likely to find meaningful employment without the assistance of programs like 'Step-up'. I have visited public housing authorities (PHA) on the mainland that have 'Step-up' programs in place and have been very impressed with the results they provide. 'Step-up' programs have been authorized for approximately 20 years and have had great success in moving residents of public housing and others in need from dependence on public assistance to a much greater degree of self-sufficiency and upward wage earning potential. In addition, it has the positive potential of moving people from public housing to more mainstream housing thus freeing up units for the more than 10,000 people in Hawaii on waiting lists for public housing.

'Step-up' should not have a negative impact on HPHA's budget because work done by program participants should be part of the regular repair and maintenance budget and would be contracted out for someone to do. The program should also not involve maintenance work normally done by in-house civil servants thus avoiding any conflict with any public worker unions. Also HUD has in place, grant opportunities available to PHA's and non-profit partners to cover costs of organizing and administering all components of a 'Step-up' program thus avoiding any non-budgeted costs that could hamper the development of this program

Again, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SCR60 and I will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rene Berthiaume, Vice President, Network Enterprises, Inc.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
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Cc: tabraham08@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SCR60 on Mar 28, 2013 13:30PM
Date: Saturday, March 23, 2013 9:18:17 AM

SCR60

Submitted on: 3/23/2013

Testimony for HMS on Mar 28, 2013 13:30PM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Troy Abraham	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I support passage of this bill to create and promote more jobs in hawaii

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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