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January 27, 2014

TO: HONORABLE ANGUS MARK HASHEM, CHAIR, HONORABLE JUSTIN

WOODSON, VICE CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON

HOUSING

SUBJECT: SUPPORT OF S.B. 2337. RELATING TO HOUSING. Authorizes the issuance and

appropriate of general obligation bonds to fund low-income housing tax credit

loans.

DECISION MAKING

DATE: Wednesday, February 5, 2014

TIME: 10:30 a.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 211

Dear Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee,

The General Contractors Association of Hawaii (GCA) is an organization comprised of over six hundred general contractors, subcontractors, and construction related firms. The GCA was established in 1932 and is the largest construction association in the State of Hawaii. The GCA's mission is to represent its members in all matters related to the construction industry, while improving the quality of construction and protecting the public interest.

The GCA is <u>in support</u> of S.B. 2337, which would allow the issuance of general obligation bond to fund low income housing tax credit loans through the Hawaii Housing Finance Development Corporation. This measure provides an incentive to improve the housing availability for Hawaii's families.

In 2009, the legislature passed Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 132, S.D.1 which established the Construction Industry Task Force. The Task Force was tasked to develop and propose state actions, for the purpose of preserving and creating new jobs in the local construction industry. One of the main areas of concern was expediting the delivery of workforce housing, this bill proposes to provide a solution to the delivery of such.

GCA supports S.B. 2337 and respectfully requests that your Committee pass this measure.