

# HB2244 HD1

Measure Title: RELATING TO HOUSING.  
Report Title: Housing Omnibus; Appropriation (\$)  
Description: Makes various appropriations for various housing programs.  
(HB2244 HD1)  
Companion: [SB2087](#)  
Package: None  
Current Referral: HOU/HMS, WAM  
Introducer(s): HASHEM, CACHOLA, ICHIYAMA, JOHANSON,  
KEOHOKALOLE, LOPRESTI, MIZUNO, NISHIMOTO,  
OSHIRO, TAKAYAMA, TOKIOKA, YAMASHITA



**EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS**  
HONOLULU

**DAVID Y. IGE**  
GOVERNOR

March 17, 2016

**TO:** The Honorable Senator Breene Harimoto, Chair  
Senate Committee on Housing

The Honorable Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair  
Senate Committee on Human Services

**FROM:** Scott Morishige, MSW, Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness

**SUBJECT: HB 2244 HD1 – RELATING TO HOUSING**

Hearing: Thursday, March 17, 2016, 1:30 p.m.  
Conference Room 016, State Capitol

**POSITION:** The Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness supports this measure to the extent that passage of this bill does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Budget. The Coordinator asks for the Legislature's support of the Governor's Executive Budget request, which includes a General Obligation bond appropriation of \$75 million for the Rental Housing Revolving Fund (RHRF); \$3 million for Housing First; \$2 million for Rapid Re-Housing and \$31 million to improve existing public housing stock within the Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA).

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of the bill is to appropriate funding for a range of services to address homelessness. These include: Part I: appropriation to the Rental Housing Revolving Fund (RHRF); Part II: appropriation for the continuation of the State's Housing First program and its expansion to the neighbor islands; Part III: appropriation to the HPHA to improve the existing public housing stock; and Part IV: appropriation for a rental assistance program, also known as the shallow subsidy program, with the Department of Human Services (DHS), for working homeless individuals and their families who are ready to rent permanent housing, with certain eligibility requirements. These appropriations

align with Goal 2, Objectives 4 and 5 of the Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness' Strategic Plan to End Homelessness, which are to "Create and preserve affordable housing for people at 50% and below of median income," and "Create and preserve permanent supportive housing options for people who are homeless and have special needs, e.g. mentally ill, medically frail, physically disabled, elderly, released offenders, and substance affected."

House Bill 2244 HD1 is the companion measure to SB 2087, which was previously heard by the Senate Committee on Housing. The House Committee on Housing amended this measure by deleting the appropriation amounts, defecting the effective date, and making technical non-substantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

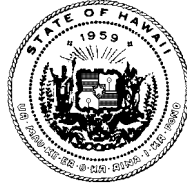
In regard to Parts I and III, there are estimates that Hawaii needs an additional 28,000 housing units to meet demand for housing, including 19,000 units for households that are low-income or very low-income. An increased appropriation to the RHRF will provide more resources to support new housing construction, while an appropriation for repair and maintenance to the HPHA will ensure that we maintain existing housing for low-income and very low-income households.

In regard to Part II, the Coordinator notes that the State's Housing First program has permanently housed 108 chronically homeless persons since July 2014, including many individuals with serious and persistent mental illness and chronic health conditions. The State's Housing First program has not only provided housing for these individuals, but has also stabilized their health conditions and significantly reduced healthcare costs. A preliminary analysis by the University of Hawaii Center on the Family of a subset of State Housing First clients found that estimated healthcare costs for clients dropped an average of 43% in the six months following housing placement – from an average of \$10,570 per client per month to \$5,980 per client per month. While the program is currently limited to Oahu, there is a need for Housing First statewide. This measure would enable statewide expansion of the program.

In regard to Part IV, which appropriates funds for a shallow subsidy program, the Coordinator defers to DHS in regards to specific issues related to implementation of the

program, including cost implications. The Coordinator notes that the proposed Rapid Re-Housing program in the Governor's Executive Budget would target a similar target population as the shallow rent subsidy program, and would be targeted to sheltered homeless individuals and families in order to increase efficiency and maximize utilization of the State's shelter inventory.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
P. O. Box 339  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

March 17, 2016

TO: The Honorable Senator Breene Harimoto, Chair  
Senate Committee on Housing

The Honorable Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair  
Senate Committee on Human Services

FROM: Rachael Wong, DrPH, Director

SUBJECT: **HB 2244 HD1 – RELATING TO HOUSING**

Hearing: Thursday, March 17, 2016, 1:30 p.m.  
Conference Room 016, State Capitol

**DEPARTMENT'S POSITION:** The Department of Human Services (DHS) appreciates the intent of this bill to provide funding to address the State's homeless crisis. In particular, the Department is supportive of Part II, expanded funding for the Housing First program, which is an evidence-based best practice targeted at the unsheltered homeless population with the highest acuity and chronicity. The DHS asks for the Legislature's support of the Governor's Executive budget request for \$3 million for Housing First.

With regard to Part IV, the establishment of a rent subsidy program to be operated by the DHS, we support the intent with comments.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of the bill is to appropriate funding for various housing programs. These include: Part I: appropriation to the rental housing revolving fund; Part II: appropriation for the continuation of the State's Housing First program and its expansion to the neighbor islands; Part III: appropriation to the Hawaii Public Housing Authority to improve the existing public housing stock; and, Part IV: appropriation for a rental assistance program, also known as the shallow subsidy

program, with the Department of Human Services, for working homeless individuals and their families who are ready to rent permanent housing, with certain eligibility requirements.

SB 2087 is the companion measure to HB2244HD1. The House committee on Housing deleted the appropriation amounts, defected the effective date, and made technical amendments.

With regard to Part IV, the establishment of a rent subsidy program to be operated by the Department, DHS notes that in discussion with the Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA), HPHA currently operates a state-wide rental subsidy program funded at approximately \$1 million. The HPHA program is currently operated with 1.25 FTE, however at one time the program was staffed at 5.0 FTE. The DHS is not certain whether the proposed rent subsidy program is intended to supplement the HPHA program or to supplant it. We would need to exercise caution about transferring the existing program staffed by civil servants and offering it via a Chapter 103f HRS contract.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



**STATE OF HAWAII**

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM  
HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
677 QUEEN STREET, SUITE 300  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
FAX: (808) 587-0600

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Statement of  
**Craig K. Hirai**  
Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation  
Before the

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES**

March 17, 2016 at 1:30 p.m.  
State Capitol, Room 016

In consideration of  
**H.B. 2244, H.D. 1, RELATING TO HOUSING.**

HHFDC supports H.B. 2244, H.D. 1, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely affect priorities set forth in the Executive Supplemental Budget request. This bill is consistent with the Governor's housing strategy, which seeks to:

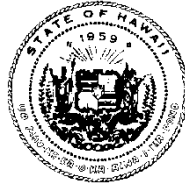
- Build homes that people can afford, including rentals, to address the needs of those entering the work force;
- Renovate the state's public housing facilities; and
- On Oahu, identify state lands near transit stations for housing, employment centers, daycare, senior centers, and community facilities.

In particular, we support the intent of Part I of the bill, which makes an unspecified General Fund appropriation for deposit into the Rental Housing Revolving Fund (RHRF). The Governor's Supplemental Budget request includes a General Obligation bond appropriation of \$75 million for infusion into the RHRF. An infusion of that amount into the RHRF would help finance the development of an additional 600 affordable rental units.

The RHRF provides loans to projects that set aside rental units affordable to extremely and very low-income families. The RHRF loans fill the financing gap to develop an affordable rental housing project. Since its inception, RHRF awards have been made to 71 affordable rental projects comprising 5,673 units statewide.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

DAVID Y. IGE  
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

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING**  
And  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES**

March 17, 2016 1:30 P.M.  
Room 016, Hawaii State Capitol

In consideration of  
**HB 2244, HD1**  
**RELATING TO HOUSING.**

Honorable Chair Harimoto and Honorable Chair Chun Oakland, and Members of the Senate Committees on Housing and Human Services, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony regarding House Bill (HB) 2244, House Draft (HD) 1, relating to housing.

The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) appreciates the general intent of this measure to provide much needed appropriations to various housing programs.

In particular, we **support Part III** of the bill, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Supplemental Budget request. Part III of the bill makes a general fund appropriation to the HPHA for the repair and maintenance of the HPHA's existing public housing stock, which may include but not be limited to sewer repairs, site light upgrades, major modernization, infrastructure improvements, reroofing and exterior repairs, fire alarm upgrades, fencing, etc. A significant appropriation will go far to address the HPHA's backlog of repairs and will make readily available more units for low-income families and individuals.

If Part III of the bill passes, the HPHA would appreciate that the appropriation is provided as a "lump sum" and include funds toward the administrative costs of the repairs and maintenance.

The HPHA appreciates the opportunity to provide the Senate Committees on Housing and Human Services with the HPHA's position regarding HB 2244, HD 1. We thank you very much for your dedicated support in addressing the affordable housing crisis in Hawaii.



**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HOU Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [darakawa@lurf.org](mailto:darakawa@lurf.org)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB2244 on Mar 17, 2016 13:30PM  
**Date:** Friday, March 11, 2016 2:58:00 PM

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**HB2244**

Submitted on: 3/11/2016

Testimony for HOU/HMS on Mar 17, 2016 13:30PM in Conference Room 016

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b>                    | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| David Z. Arakawa    | Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii | Support                   | Yes                       |

Comments: The Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii strongly supports HB 2244, HD1, which provides appropriations for various housing programs, including: (1) The Rental Housing Revolving Fund to be used for rental housing units; (2) The State's Housing First Program to be used for the continued implementation of the Program and expansion of the Program outside Oahu; (3) The repair and maintenance of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority's existing public housing stock; and (4) A rental assistance program, also known as the Shallow Subsidy Program, within the Department of Human Services to be used for homeless working individuals and their families who are ready to rent permanent housing, with certain eligibility requirements.

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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PROTECTING HAWAII'S OHANA, CHILDREN, UNDER SERVED, ELDERLY AND DISABLED

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TO: Senator Breene Harimoto, Chair of Senate Housing  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice-Chair of Senate Housing  
Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Chair of Senate Human Services  
Senator Gil Riviere, Vice-Chair of Senate Human Services  
Members, Senate Committees on Housing and Human Services

FROM: Scott Fuji, Executive Director PHOCUSED

HEARING: **Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 1:30pm in Conf. Rm. 016**

**Testimony in Support of HB 2244 HD1 RELATING TO HOUSING**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **strong support** of HB 2244 HD1 which would make appropriations to various housing programs. PHOCUSED is a non-profit membership based advocacy group for the health and human service sector.

Hawaii's homeless situation has reached crisis proportions. We are currently ranked as having the #1 rate of homelessness per capita in the nation. This crisis requires a multi-faceted approach to housing Hawaii's individuals and families experiencing homelessness. We strongly support HB2244 HD1 with the original language to appropriate the following funds:

- \$75 million to the Rental Housing Revolving Fund to produce a significant number of affordable rental units.
- \$3 million dollars for the State's Housing First program which provides long-term rental support and intensive case management for some of Hawaii's most vulnerable and long-term homeless individuals and families.
- \$2 million dollars for a State shallow rent subsidy program which would provide working families with enough rental support to be able to leave the streets or shelters and move directly into permanent housing.

These are programs targeted and designed to address homelessness at its roots (affordable housing), those who are currently homeless and in need of intensive case management to stay permanently housed (Housing First), and our working families who are not currently making enough to be able to afford rent (Shallow Rent Subsidy). HB2244 HD1 would go a long way towards offering targeted and specific relief to those we know are out there that need it.

Once again, PHOCUSED strongly urges your support of this bill. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact PHOCUSED at 521-7462 or by e-mail at [admin@phocused-hawaii.org](mailto:admin@phocused-hawaii.org).



## CATHOLIC CHARITIES HAWAII

### TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 2244, HD1: RELATING TO HOUSING

**TO:** Senator Breene Harimoto, Chair; Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair; and Members, Committees on Housing and Human Services  
**FROM:** Betty Lou Larson, Legislative Liaison, Catholic Charities Hawai'i  
**Hearing:** **Thursday, 3/17/16; 1:30 PM; Conference room 016**

Chair Harimoto, Chair Chun Oakland, and Members, Committees on Housing and Human Services:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony **in strong support** of HD 2244, HD1, making appropriations for multiple housing initiatives. I am Betty Lou Larson, representing Catholic Charities Hawai'i. We are also members of Partners in Care. Catholic Charities Hawai'i has a long history of working in the areas of affordable housing and homelessness. We see the need for affordable rentals every day. Many elders who seek help from our Housing Assistance Program are facing homelessness. The same is true for singles and families who come to our Housing and Referral Programs. We need to act NOW to create more new affordable rentals, as well as provide multiple paths out of homelessness, such as in this bill.

#### **Catholic Charities Hawai'i priorities for 2016 include:**

**Part I: allocate funding to the Rental Housing Revolving Fund (RHRF):** we support **\$75 million** to this Fund. These funds would provide the gap financing critical to building more affordable rental units. Hawaii has the most expensive housing in the nation—twice the nation average. Rents have increased 65% over the past 10 years. The State needs to promote more affordable rentals. The RHRF has successfully created 5,673 units of affordable housing since inception. It utilizes public-private partnerships to leverage the RHRF with other resources.

**Part II: Housing First.** We support **\$3 million** to continue this program which has successfully housed the chronically homeless, and to expand it to the Neighbor Islands. We respectfully urge you to add this funding to the **base budget of DHS**. Because funding is not in the base budget, the sustainability of housing for individuals in the current program (80 households as of 1/11/16) is at risk. **Housing First saves the state money:** *The Pathways preliminary report on healthcare savings found that after deducting the cost of rental subsidies (\$1,100/mo) and supportive services (\$1,120/mo), the net savings was estimated at \$2,370 per client/month. Total savings per year for each housed client would be about \$28,440 per client.*

**Part IV:** we support **\$2 million** for a shallow rent subsidy program. This promotes the rapid rehousing of families who are working. Often they are stuck in transitional or emergency housing since their work income is not enough for a market unit. DHS plans to target families in high performing shelters since these shelters already have the bookkeeping and case management capacity to rapidly implement this new program without having to create a new bureaucracy. With this rental subsidy, these working people will become permanently housed, opening up space in shelters for more families. This would better utilize shelter space.

Thank you for addressing these multiple paths out of homelessness. We urge your support.



March 17, 2016

**The Honorable Breene Harimoto, Chair**

Senate Committee on Housing

**The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair**

Senate Committee on Human Services

State Capitol, Room 016

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**RE: H.B. 2244, H.D.1, Relating to Housing**

**HEARING: Thursday, March 17, 2016 at 1:30 p.m.**

Aloha Chair Harimoto, Chair Chun Oakland, and Members of the Committees:

I am Myoung Oh, Government Affairs Director, here to testify on behalf of the Hawai'i Association of REALTORS® ("HAR"), the voice of real estate in Hawai'i, and its 8,800 members. HAR **supports the intent** of H.B. 2244, H.D.1 which makes various appropriations for various housing program.

According to the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism, nearly 66,000 housing units are needed to meet long-term demand over the next ten years. Not only do we need more affordable homes to meet today's needs of our working individuals and families, we need a place where our keiki can afford to live in the future.

HAR has historically supported mechanisms to help increase the supply of low and moderate income affordable housing such as the Rental Housing Revolving Fund Program which can help integrate the use of mixed-income and mixed-use projects, special purpose revenue bonds, low-interest loans, block grants, low-income housing tax credit programs and deferred loan programs to provide rental housing opportunities.

As such, HAR believes appropriating funds to the Rental Housing Revolving Fund will help expand the much needed affordable rental housing opportunities for Hawaii's residents and will help address the States unique challenges related to affordable rentals.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.



# PARTNERS IN CARE

## Oahu Continuum of Care

*Partners in Care is a coalition of Oahu's homeless service providers, government representatives and community stakeholders working together in partnership to end homelessness.*

### TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 2244, HD1: RELATING TO HOUSING

**TO:** Senator Breene Harimoto, Chair; Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair; and Members, Committees on Housing and Human Services  
**FROM:** Greg Payton, Chair, Advocacy Committee, Partners in Care  
**Hearing:** **Thursday, 3/17/16; 1:30 PM; CR 016**

Chair Harimoto, Chair Chun Oakland, and Members, Committees on Housing & Human Services:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony **in strong support** of HD 2244, HD1, making appropriations for multiple housing initiatives. I am Greg Payton, the Chair of the Advocacy Committee of Partners in Care (PIC).

Partners in Care is a coalition of homeless service providers and many others in the community on Oahu dedicated to ending homelessness. In the past year on Oahu, we have developed a coordinated entry system to more effectively and strategically help homeless to navigate resources and be linked to housing. This bill addresses the next steps and the **KEY** to ending homelessness, creation of more affordable rental housing, as well as evidence based solutions to house the chronically homeless and rapidly re-house homeless families and working people.

Hawaii's homeless situation has reached crisis proportions. We are currently ranked as having the #1 rate of homelessness per capita in the nation. This crisis requires a multi-faceted approach to housing Hawaii's individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Partners in Care supports **\$75 million to the Rental Housing Revolving Fund** which is critical to produce a significant number of affordable rental units. This fund is the major tool to create private-public partnerships which have created 5,673 affordable rental units across the state.

Partner in Care also supports **\$3 million for Housing First**. The State's current Housing First program on Oahu has shown tremendous success this past year in housing some of Oahu's hardest to house, highest utilizers of public services, and long-term homeless individuals and families. Through a combination of on-going rental subsidies and wrap-around support services and case management, the State's program have permanently housed over 80 households, including families, with a 97% retention rate. Not only is this program effective to keep chronically homeless households in permanent housing but it efficiently reduces public costs through accumulated healthcare savings. The Parthways preliminary report on the State's Housing First program shows an estimated savings of \$2,370 per month (\$28,440/year) in reduced healthcare expenditures. Reducing a household's ER utilization by just one visit a month results in savings that equal to the average monthly rent to permanently house them. Data gathered by Oahu providers shows that there are over 1,000 households that would benefit from the State's Housing First program, demonstrating a clear and immediate need for these additional funds.

We also recognize that there are many families in Hawaii struggling with homelessness for the simple lack of affordable housing. Despite having regular income from employment, hundreds of Hawaii's families are unable to leave shelters because the price of housing simply exceeds their current income. We support **\$2 million for a shallow rent subsidy program**, which would provide a small rental subsidy allowing working families to exit shelters and enter permanent housing immediately. This rapid rehousing program would free up existing shelter space for families currently on the street, preventing the need for expanding shelter services. This focuses on the true means of ending homelessness: moving families into permanent housing. Oahu data shows there are nearly 500 families that could potentially benefit from a Shallow Rent Subsidy program.

Once again, we strongly urge your support of HB 2244 to work towards our goal of ending homelessness in Hawaii. Please contact me at (808) 529-4554 or [gpayton@mhkhawaii.org](mailto:gpayton@mhkhawaii.org), if you have any questions.



49 South Hotel Street, Room 314 | Honolulu, HI 96813  
[www.lwv-hawaii.com](http://www.lwv-hawaii.com) | 808.531.7448 | [voters@lwv-hawaii.com](mailto:voters@lwv-hawaii.com)

COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Thursday, March 17, 2016, 1:30 P.M., Conference Room 016

HB 1773 HD1 RELATING TO HOUSING  
HB 2244, HD1 RELATING TO HOUSING

TESTIMONY

Ann Sack Shaver, Ph.D., President, League of Women Voters of Hawaii

**The League of Women Voters of Hawaii supports HB1773 HD1 which appropriates funds for the Shallow Rent Subsidy Program and appropriates other funds to the Department of Human Services to continue to administer Housing First Programs.**

Research conducted in various locations for many years involving diverse population sub-groups have confirmed the cost-effectiveness of both Housing First programs and shallow rent subsidies. Thus, the League of Women Voters concurs with the Committee reports of the Finance, Housing and Human Services committees that Bill 1773 should be enacted. Passage would benefit both the recipients of the services and the State at large.

**Closely related to the intent and purpose of HB 1773 we also support HB 2244 which also makes funding for housing the homeless a reality.**

We urge you to pass both bills. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.





Hawaii  
**Children's Action Network**  
Building a unified voice for Hawaii's children

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**Address**

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March 1, 2016

To: Senator Breene Harimoto, Chair  
Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Housing

Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair  
Senator Gil Riviere, Vice Chair  
Senate Committee on Human Services

From: Deborah Zysman, Executive Director  
Hawaii Children's Action Network

Re: **HB2244, HD1 – Relating to Housing – Support**  
**Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 016 – March 15, 2016, 1:30 PM**

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**On behalf of Hawaii Children's Action Network (HCAN), formerly Good Beginnings Alliance, we are writing in support of HB2244, HD1, Relating to Housing.**

HCAN is committed to improving lives and being a strong voice advocating for Hawai'i's children. Last fall, HCAN convened input in person and online from more than 50 organizations and individuals that came forward to support or express interest for a number of issues affecting children and families in our state that resulted in the compilation of 2016 Hawai'i Children's Policy Agenda, which can be accessed at <http://www.hawaii-can.org/2016policyagenda>.

HCAN supports this bill, which would appropriate funds to provide:

- \$75 million for the repair and maintenance of the states existing public housing units;
- \$3 million to expand the State's Housing First Program;
- \$ 2 million for temporary rental (Shallow Rent) subsidies for working families.

Funding programs like these help to address the chronic housing shortage and bridge the economic gap for families to afford safe and secure housing, especially those with young children. Without these subsidies, we could see our state continue to lead the nation in growing rates for homelessness and unsafe and unstable housing option.



**Homeless Children:** Hawai'i has the highest homeless rate in the nation. It's estimated that one-third of the homeless in Hawai'i are children.

**Unstable Housing:** Many of our families may not be living on the street or the beach, yet they don't have permanent housing -- they stay with friends and family -- moving frequently.

**High cost of housing for families:** 60 percent of households with young children in Hawai'i pay more than 30% of their income for housing.

According to a 2012 report published by Child Trends, children who experience a high degree of instability and turbulence in their lives are more likely to suffer higher levels of emotional and behavioral problems. Children who are homeless may suffer from hunger, poor physical and emotional health, and missed educational opportunities. According to the National Center on Family Homelessness, children who are homeless are twice as likely to go hungry as are children who are not homeless. Homeless children are more likely than other children to have moderate to severe acute and chronic health problems, and less access to medical and dental care. Symptoms of asthma, hyperactivity/inattention, and behavior problem are more prevalent among this group. Homeless children have three times the rate of emotional and behavioral problems, such as anxiety, depression, sleep problems, withdrawal and aggression. Children without stable homes are more than twice as likely as others to repeat a school grade, be expelled or suspended, or drop out of high school. A quarter or more of homeless children have witnessed violence.

Hawai'i needs a comprehensive affordable housing solution that helps families at every stage to secure stable housing solutions to help families and keiki in our state build a pathway toward greater economic stability and a healthier thriving community.

**For these reasons, HCAN respectfully requests that the committee vote to pass this bill.**

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HOU Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [dylanarm@hawaii.edu](mailto:dylanarm@hawaii.edu)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB2244 on Mar 17, 2016 13:30PM\*  
**Date:** Monday, March 14, 2016 5:04:00 PM

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**HB2244**

Submitted on: 3/14/2016

Testimony for HOU/HMS on Mar 17, 2016 13:30PM in Conference Room 016

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Dylan Armstrong     | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments:

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