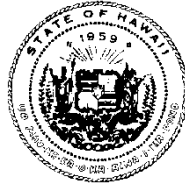




# SB 915

<b>Measure Title:</b>	RELATING TO THE HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY.
<b>Report Title:</b>	Hawaii Public Housing Authority; State Low-Income Public Housing Program; Appropriation (\$)
<b>Description:</b>	Appropriates \$5,000,000 in general funds to assist and support the Hawaii public housing authority's state low-income public housing program.
<b>Companion:</b>	
<b>Package:</b>	None
<b>Current Referral:</b>	HSH, WAM
<b>Introducer(s):</b>	CHUN OAKLAND, DELA CRUZ, GALUTERIA, Riviere

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 HUMAN SERVICES**

January 31, 2015 1:15 P.M.  
Room 229, Hawaii State Capitol

In consideration of

**Senate Bill 915**

**Relating to the Hawaii Public Housing Authority**

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 Bill (S.B.) 915, relating to the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) strongly supports the enactment of this measure, which would provide the HPHA with \$5,000,000 in general funds that will be used to assist and support the HPHA's state low-income public housing program.

The HPHA's mission is to promote adequate and affordable housing, economic opportunity and a suitable living environment free from discrimination through its public housing and rental assistance programs. The HPHA serves the State's most vulnerable populations, including those earning less than thirty percent of the Area Median Income (AMI), the disabled and the elderly.

Hawaii Revised Statutes Chapter 356D mandates that the State low-income public housing program must be self-supporting, however, the rental income at the HPHA's state housing facilities is insufficient.

The HPHA is requesting these general funds to supplement rental income, and assist the agency in delaying or reasonably increasing rents in both state family and state elderly low-income public housing. State elderly housing is represents 576 units out of a total of 864 units or approximately 80% of the total state units. This population is particularly vulnerable to rent increases as their income is generally fixed.

Hawaii Public Housing Authority

January 31, 2015

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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. 915. We respectfully request the Committee to pass this measure favorably, and we thank you very much for your dedicated support to address the affordable housing crisis facing Hawaii.



**HPCA**

HAWAII PRIMARY CARE ASSOCIATION

**Senate Committee on Human Services**

The Hon. Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair

The Hon. Josh Green, Vice Chair

**Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 915**  
**Relating to the Hawaii Public Housing Authority**  
**Submitted by Robert Hirokawa, Chief Executive Officer**  
**January 31, 2015, 1:15pm, Room 229**

The Hawaii Primary Care Association (HPCA), which represents the federally qualified community health centers in Hawaii, supports Senate Bill 915, which appropriates funds to assist the state's low-income public housing program.

The HPCA is a staunch believer in the social determinants of health, those economic and social conditions that influence an individual and a community's health status. These conditions serve as risk factors endemic to a person's living and working environment, rather than their behavioral or genetic histories. Factors such as income, education, access to recreation and healthy foods, housing, and employment, can and do have measurable impacts on a person and a community, both in health and financial outcomes.

Senate Bill 915 speaks to one of these major determinants by seeking to alleviate the growing affordable housing crisis in Hawaii. For that reason, we strongly support this measure and thank you for the opportunity to testify.