

---

---

# HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING APPROVAL FROM THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION FOR  
A PROPOSED LOW-INCOME AND WORKFORCE HOUSING PROJECT LOCATED  
WITHIN THE FOOTPRINT OF A FEDERALLY-FUNDED INTERSTATE  
HIGHWAY.

1           WHEREAS, in 2016, almost 8,000 individuals experienced  
2 homelessness in Hawaii, according to Partners in Care's annual  
3 point in time survey; and  
4

5           WHEREAS, while market rental rates in Hawaii are among the  
6 highest in the nation and overall cost of living is the highest,  
7 average household income in the State is among the lowest; and  
8

9           WHEREAS, Hawaii's income to expense gap has consistently  
10 widened over the past 10 years as rents, particularly in  
11 Honolulu, have consistently risen faster than both wages and  
12 inflation; and  
13

14           WHEREAS, the State's stock of affordable housing stock is  
15 insufficient to meet demand, especially for the lowest income  
16 households, for which affordable housing is available to less  
17 than one-third of households; and  
18

19           WHEREAS, Housing First is a nationally recognized best  
20 practice proven to be the most effective and efficient approach  
21 to helping people experiencing chronic homelessness get and stay  
22 off the streets by immediately moving them from the streets or  
23 homeless shelters into their own apartments; and  
24

25           WHEREAS, many county, state, and private interests are  
26 working together to find innovative solutions to homelessness  
27 and Hawaii's housing crisis that adhere to the Housing First  
28 model; and  
29

30           WHEREAS, one such initiative is a planned transitional  
31 housing pilot project on Oahu to be placed on land subject to



1 the jurisdiction of the Federal Highway Administration, use of  
2 which requires one or more permits or approvals from the Federal  
3 Highway Administration; and  
4

5 WHEREAS, as part of the planning and preparation for the  
6 housing pilot project, the project developers will soon begin  
7 submitting preliminary applications for federal approval; now,  
8 therefore,  
9

10 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
11 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
12 of 2017, that the Federal Highway Administration is requested to  
13 timely process applications for permits and approvals necessary  
14 for the development of a transitional housing pilot project on  
15 land subject to Federal Highway Administration jurisdiction and  
16 timely approve applications that meet eligibility criteria; and  
17

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
19 Resolution be transmitted to the Division Director of the  
20 Western Federal Lands Highway Division of the Federal Highway  
21 Administration, Governor, Director of Transportation, and Mayor  
22 of the City and County of Honolulu.  
23  
24  
25

OFFERED BY:

  
\_\_\_\_\_

MAR 10 2017

