



HAWAII COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY



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KALAELOA

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Governor

John Whalen  
Chairperson

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Executive Director

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# LATE TESTIMONY

STATEMENT OF

JESSE K. SOUKI, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
HAWAII COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

BEFORE THE

SENATE COMMITTEES ON HOUSING AND  
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

ON

Tuesday, February 14, 2017  
2:45 P.M.

State Capitol, Conference Room 225

in consideration of

**SB 1244 – RELATING TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

Chairs Espero and Kim, Vice Chairs Harimoto and Ruderman, and members of the committee.

The HCDA respectfully offers **comments** on this proposal.

As long as this bill does not affect HCDA's right to repurchase affordable units developed with HCDA's assistance, we have no objection to this bill. We recognize the importance of developing more affordable rental housing for low-income families, and bringing more affordable rentals online statewide.

The Legislature may wish to add a requirement that a qualified nonprofit housing trust should report the disposition of the units to the legislature annually to keep the public apprised of how the trust is managing its units.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide **comments** on this bill.



Hawai'i  
HomeOwnership  
Center

NeighborWorks® HomeOwnership Center

# LATE TESTIMONY

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The Honorable Will Espero, Chair  
Senate Committee on Housing  
The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Chair  
Senate Committee on Government Operations  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hawaii

**Hearing: Tuesday, February 14, 2017 at 2:45 pm; Conference Room 225**

**Re: Testimony in Support of SB 1244 Relating to Affordable Housing**

Aloha Chair Espero, Chair Kim and Members of the Joint Senate Committee on Housing and Government Operations:

We are testifying in **support** of S.B. 1244, Relating to Affordable Housing. This bill would enable a qualified nonprofit housing trust to repurchase affordable units developed with government assistance when a government entity elects to waive its right to repurchase those units. The goal of this legislation is to ensure that affordable units will permanently remain in the affordable housing pool for Hawaii residents.

Our State's shortage of decent, affordable homes has grown to crisis proportions. There is currently an estimated shortage of 20,000 homes that are affordable to low and moderate income residents, and the shortage continues to grow. Moreover, we often lose affordable units to the open market when government waives the right to repurchase affordable units that are subject to "buyback" restrictions. To prevent this from happening, this bill seeks to enable a qualified nonprofit housing trust to purchase government-assisted affordable housing units when a government entity waives its right to do so. The unit would then be kept in the housing trust's affordable housing inventory, thereby preserving the affordability of those units for as long as possible.

I urge you to support this measure which would help to preserve Hawaii's affordable housing inventory. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dennis Oshiro  
Executive Director



(see attached listing  
in support)

The following residents join us in submitting this letter of support:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Home Zip Code</b>
Carol Armstrong	Title Guaranty	96819
Stacey Domingo		96789
Keith Kato	Hawaii Island Community Development Corporation	96781
Crystal Lancaster	Hawaii Association of REALTORS	96782
Joanne Kealoha		96816
Steven Tanaka	Progressive Electric, Co.	96819
Patricia Yee	Old Republic Title	96734
Carla Vierra		96789
Patrick Bullard	H&B Marketing and Hawaii HomeOwnership Center Board Member	96813
Michael Miller		96734
Jeffrey Orig		96818
Lloyd Sueda		96826
Shawn Kelly		96816
Jan Wuerfel		96744
William Rizzo		96821
Quentin Machida		96706
Constance Rosa		96744
Kaitlyn Naquin		96734
Dana Kokubun		96822
Roy Katsuda	Hale Mahaolu	96732
Alan Suzuki		96782
Briand Achong	Greenpath Technologies Inc	96825
Terri Mochizuki		96816
Allison Peterson		96826
Mark Kimoto		96819
Russell Miyashiro		96701
Angela Goya		96789
Chantal Weaver	Spencecliff Corp	96744
Natalie Kiehm		96816
Brian Walther		96814
Dale Tomei		96817
Karl Baker		96813
Yandeyra Nunez		96826
Kristi Kwock		96814
Chu Lan Schubert-Kwock	Chinatown Business & Community Association	96817
Alan Uyeoka		96813
Norman Noguchi	Marcus & Associates, Inc.	96813

Berton Hamamoto	Hawaii Association of REALTORS	96701
Darlean Kiyokane		96817
David Hudson		96822
Jason T. Okuhama	Commercian & Business Lending/Hawaii Alliance for Community Based Economic Development	96813
Kalama Kim	Coldwell Banker Pacific Properties	96707
David Goya		96789
Karl Yoneshige	HawaiiUSA Federal Credit Union	96744
Sarah Kim		96817
Dawn Smith		96814
Lester Shoda		96822
Joni King	East Oahu Realty	96815
Emily Diep		96818
Iris Taniguchi		96817
Byron Chock		96822
Nicole West		96815
Amelia Lee		96826
Carol Hagiwara	Hawaii Association of REALTORS	96789
Daniel Leung	iProperties Hawaii	96818
Jodie Tanga	Pacific Rim Mortgage	96701
Reina Miyamoto		96817
Phyllis Cox	Arch Mortgage Insurance	96734
Debra Wilson		96826
Kaulana Young		96782
Jon Yamaguchi		96818
Victor Brock	Hawaii State Federal Credit Union	96813
Stacey White		96817
Wade Yamanaka		96789
Linda Yadao	Berkshire Hathaway Home Services Hawaii Realty	96791
Richard Williams		96818
Aolani Yamasato-Gragas		96819