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GOVERNOR

LEO R. ASUNCION
DIRECTOR
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Statement of
LEO R. ASUNCION
Director, Office of Planning
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Tuesday, February 28, 2017
1:30 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

in consideration of
SB 715, SD1
**RELATING TO THE SPECIAL ACTION TEAM ON AFFORDABLE RENTAL
HOUSING.**

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means.

The Office of Planning (OP) supports SB 715, SD1, and offers a technical amendment. SB 715, SD1 proposes to expand the membership of the Special Action Team on Affordable Rental Housing created under Act 127, Session Laws of Hawaii 2016 by including the Executive Director of the Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA) and the Executive Director of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA), and allows the Executive Directors of HCDA and HPHA to designate a representative to be a member.

However, Subsection 6(b) of Act 127, Session Laws of Hawaii 2016 which created the Special Action Team on Affordable Rental Housing states “a special action team member may designate another officer or employee of the member’s department or agency or member’s representative group to attend one or more meetings in place of the member”. We recommend amending SB 715 SD1 to remove language referencing designating representatives because it is already addressed.

OP agrees that the collaborative efforts of the Special Action Team would benefit with the membership of HCDA and HPHA to achieve the State’s Affordable Rental Housing goals and tasks set forth in Act 127, Session Laws of Hawaii 2016.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



HAWAII COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY



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STATEMENT OF

JESSE K. SOUKI, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
HAWAII COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Tuesday, February 28, 2017
1:30 P.M.

State Capitol, Conference Room 211

in consideration of

**SB 715, SD1 – RELATING TO THE SPECIAL ACTION TEAM ON
AFFORDABLE RENTAL HOUSING**

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz and members of the committee.

This testimony reflects my view alone. The Hawaii Community Development Authority (HCDA) has not reviewed or acted on this measure.

In my capacity as the HCDA Executive Director I respectfully offer **comments** on SB 715, SD1. There is a dire need for rental housing for low-income families statewide. Regionally in the Kakaako Community Development District, there are three active affordable housing projects that have been approved that would add 365 affordable rentals over the next few years.

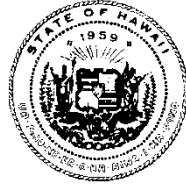
Presently, HCDA owns very little underdeveloped or undeveloped land in the district suitable for housing projects. Most of the developable lands suitable for housing projects are owned by private landowners.

Generally, HCDA supports any effort that will further the development of affordable rentals for Hawaii's working families.

I would have no objection for the Executive Director of HCDA or his designee to be added to the special action team.

Thank you.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



HAKIM OUANSAFI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BARBARA E. ARASHIRO
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Statement of
Hakim Ouansafi
Hawaii Public Housing Authority
Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Tuesday, February 28, 2017
Room 211, Hawaii State Capitol
1:30 PM

In consideration of
SB 715, SD1
RELATING TO THE SPECIAL ACTION TEAM ON AFFORDABLE RENTAL HOUSING

Honorable Chair Tokuda and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony regarding Senate Bill 715, SD1, relating to the special action team on affordable rental housing.

The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) supports SB 715, SD1, which adds the executive director of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority and the executive director of the Hawaii Community Development Corporation to the special action team on affordable housing, or in the alternative allows each executive director to designate a representative to be a member of the special action team on affordable rental housing.

The HPHA welcomes the opportunity to join this team, as we are committed to promoting adequate and affordable housing, economic opportunity and a sustainable living environment, for low income families and individuals, free from discrimination. The HPHA makes every effort to better the lives of the over 30,000 individuals that we serve and those who are in need of assistance.

The HPHA has been included in discussions with the Special Action team and the administration, and we look forward to continue working collaboratively to address the State's housing crisis.

The HPHA appreciates the opportunity to provide the Senate Committee on Ways and Means with the HPHA's comments regarding SB 715, SD1. We thank you very much for your dedicated support.