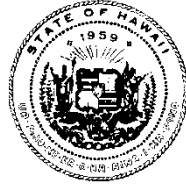


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



HAKIM OUANSAFI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BARBARA E. ARASHIRO
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY
1002 NORTH SCHOOL STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 17907
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817

Statement of
Hakim Ouansafi
Hawaii Public Housing Authority
Before the

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
AND
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING**

**TUESDAY, February 14, 2017
1:15 PM
Room 229, Hawaii State Capitol**

In consideration of
SB 99
RELATING TO THE HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER PROGRAM

Honorable Chair Nishihara, Honorable Chair Espero, and Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs, and Senate Committee on Housing, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony concerning Senate Bill 99, relating to the housing choice voucher program.

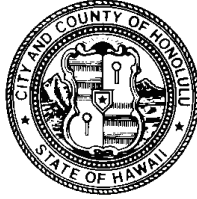
The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) supports the intent of SB 99, which seeks to prohibit any county from disqualifying a legal nonconforming dwelling unit from the housing choice voucher program if the unit meets zoning and building code requirements and other program standards such as health and safety standards.

In the midst of a low-income rental housing crisis, the HPHA supports accessibility to as large a rental pool as possible. The HPHA is concerned that the City and County of Honolulu and the neighbor island Counties may not have records on legal non-conforming units which are considered "grandfathered" in. As such, the units may be considered "illegal nonconforming" units, but the Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) does not have any records to confirm this.

The HPHA appreciates the opportunity to provide the Senate Committees Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs, and Housing with the HPHA's comments regarding SB 99. We thank you very much for your dedicated support.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

715 SOUTH KING STREET, SUITE 311 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813 • AREA CODE 808 • PHONE: 768-7762 • FAX: 768-7792



KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR

GARY K. NAKATA
DIRECTOR

GAIL KAITO
ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR

TESTIMONY OF GARY K. NAKATA, DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC SAFETY,
INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS, AND HOUSING

Tuesday, February 14, 2017, 1:15 p.m.
State Capitol Conference Room 229

SENATE Bill 99, RELATING TO THE HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER PROGRAM

TO: The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara , Chair
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair
and Members of the Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military
Affairs
The Honorable Will Espero, Chair
The Honorable Breene Harimoto, Vice Chair
And Members of the Committee on Housing

Senate Bill No. 99 prohibits a county from disqualifying a legal nonconforming dwelling unit from the housing choice voucher program if the unit meets zoning and building code requirements and other program standards such as health and safety standards.

Current City and County of Honolulu administrative rules provide that the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program defers to the county's zoning for any property proposed for lease to a HCV tenant. The City Department of Community Services confirms with the Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) that the unit meets the definition of a legal nonconforming unit before allowing the unit to be leased by a HCV assisted family. We will work with DPP to expedite the determination as much as possible to assist our tenants. We would not want a family to incur the expense of moving only to be later told the unit is not legally permitted and therefore the family must vacate the unit.

We understand the bill's intent to maximize the use of available housing stock and note that we already allow for legal nonconforming units to be a part of the housing inventory.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill. Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 768-7760.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, February 11, 2017 6:14 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: blawaiianlvr@icloud.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB99 on Feb 14, 2017 13:15PM

SB99

Submitted on: 2/11/2017

Testimony for PSM/HOU on Feb 14, 2017 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
De MONT R. D. CONNER	Ho'omana Pono, LLC.	Support	Yes

Comments: We FULLY SUPPORT this bill, which will help the Wai`anae Coast & its Section 8 issues. Mahalo.

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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