

Honolulu, Hawaii
February 8, 2018

RE: H.B. No. 2554
H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2018
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Housing, to which was referred H.B. No. 2554 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOUSING PRODUCTION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to address the shortage of available housing in Hawaii by requiring that counties authorize a minimum number of housing projects for the next ten years.

The Chamber of Commerce Hawaii and Building Industry Association Hawaii supported this measure. The Mayor of the County of Hawaii, Chair of the Maui County Council, three Maui County Councilmembers, and Department of Planning and Permitting for the City and County of Honolulu opposed this measure. The Tax Foundation of Hawaii offered comments for this measure.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii is currently experiencing a housing crisis, and it may benefit the State to consider creative solutions to address the problem.

Your Committee notes that the measure contains ambiguity regarding what is meant by "authorize the construction" in the new language added to the statute. For example, the act of authorizing could be construed as approval of a building permit for construction on private property, entering into agreements



with private developers to undertake housing projects, or both. Should this measure progress through the legislative process, your Committee requests that future Committees engage stakeholders to resolve this ambiguity.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to January 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2554, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2554, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Tourism.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Housing,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Brower", written over a horizontal line.

TOM BROWER, Chair



State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The Twenty-ninth Legislature

HSCR 144-18

Record of Votes of the Committee on Housing

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 2554	Committee Referral: HSG, TOU, FIN	Date: 2/1/18
--	---	------------------------

The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.

The recommendation is to: Pass, unamended (as is) Pass, with amendments (HD) Hold
 Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)

HSG Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. BROWER, Tom (C)	✓			
2. NAKAMURA, Nadine K. (VC)	✓			
3. AQUINO, Henry J.C.	✓			
4. HASHEM, Mark J.	✓			
5. QUINLAN, Sean				✓
6. SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A.	✓			
7. MCDERMOTT, Bob	✓			
TOTAL (7)	6			1

The recommendation is: Adopted Not Adopted
If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation.
committee acronym(s)

Vice Chair's or designee's signature: *Nadine K. Nakamura*

Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO