

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CRAIG K. HIRAI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM
HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
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IN REPLY REFER TO:

Statement of
Craig K. Hirai
Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation
Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

February 21, 2018 at 10:10 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 211

In consideration of
S.B. 2594, S.D. 1
RELATING TO HOUSING.

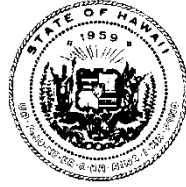
HHFDC **supports the intent** of S.B. 2594, S.D. 1, which requires publicly funded residential housing to incorporate housing visitability standards. This bill is consistent with findings of the State of Hawaii Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice with a Focus on People with Disabilities dated November 2016.

The Analysis of Impediments was funded by a consortium of eight State and County housing agencies including the HHFDC. The consortium decided to focus the Analysis of Impediments on people with disabilities because most fair housing complaints submitted in Hawaii come from this protected class. The focus on people with disabilities enables a more in-depth exploration of the particular impediments that members of this protected class tend to face.

The basic values that have come to guide legislation and policy are that housing for people with disabilities should be affordable, meet their disability-related needs (particularly regarding physical accessibility), and integrated into the community to foster social inclusion. Therefore, we support the intent of legislation like S.B. 2594, S.D. 1.

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

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



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Statement of
Hakim Ouansafi
Hawaii Public Housing Authority
Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Wednesday, February 21, 2018
10:10 AM - Room 211, Hawaii State Capitol

In consideration of
SB 2594, SD1
RELATING TO HOUSING

Honorable Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony concerning Senate Bill (SB) 2594, SD1, relating to housing.

The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) supports the intent of SB 2594, SD1, which would allow the HPHA discretion when renovating or constructing its publicly funded residential housing projects to incorporate housing visitability standards.

The HPHA prefers the SD1 to the original measure because the original measure did not take into account that many of the HPHA's buildings exceed 60 years of age that would require technically infeasible structural modifications, and did not take into consideration any topographical challenges that would impose an undue financial burden on the HPHA.

For example, modifying the following 4 properties alone (out of 85 HPHA properties): Palolo, Kalihi Valley Homes, Puahala Homes, and Hale Laulima, which possess specific topographical challenges due to their locations, will require approximately \$150 million under the original measure. Tenants would also need to be transferred due to water being turned off during construction of the new bathroom facilities.

The HPHA appreciates the opportunity to provide the Senate Committee on Ways and Means with the HPHA's comments regarding SB 2594, SD1. We thank you very much for your dedicated support.

SB-2594-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2018 9:15:53 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/21/2018 10:10:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for OCC Legislative Priorities Committee, Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

**PRESENTATION OF THE
OAHU COUNTY COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES
DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAI'I**

TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

THE SENATE

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION OF 2018

Wednesday, February 21, 2018

10:10 a.m.

Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 211

RE: Testimony in Support of SB 2594 SD1 RELATING TO HOUSING

To the Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair; the Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice-Chair, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means:

Good morning, my name is Melodie Aduja. I serve as Chair of the Oahu County Committee ("OCC") Legislative Priorities Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on Senate Bill No.2594 SD1 relating to publicly funded residential housing with visitability standards.

The OCC Legislative Priorities Committee is in favor of Senate Bill No. 2594 SD1 and support its passage.

Senate Bill No. 2594 SD1 is in alignment with the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i ("DPH"), 2016, as it requires that certain construction and renovation of publicly funded residential housing incorporate housing visitability standards beginning on January 1, 2019.

The DPH Platform states that "[h]ousing is a basic human need and we believe that adequate, **accessible**, affordable, and safe housing should be available to all residents of Hawai'i. Affordable housing that is fair in proportion to individual income is the basis of prosperity for our citizens and stability in our economy. Recent and past real estate bubbles have fueled disproportionate rent increases, a key contributor to homelessness. Therefore, we support efforts to promote truly affordable housing for all citizens who rent.(Platform of the DPH, P. 7, Lines 340-344 (2016)).

We believe in the concept of "Housing First" to develop affordable, stable housing and support services to break the cycle of homelessness for people with the fewest housing options.

We support dedicated social services and housing opportunities for Hawaii's homeless population, to get them off the streets and reintegrated into society, with specific devoted services for disenfranchised groups including but not limited to the Hawaiian community, aged-out foster kids, youth, returning veterans, the aged, and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender homeless. (Platform of the DPH, P. 7, Lines 352-358 (2016)).

Given that Senate Bill No. 2594 SD1 requires that certain construction and renovation of publicly funded residential housing incorporate housing visitability standards beginning on January 1, 2019, it is the position of the OCC Legislative Priorities Committee to support this measure.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Melodie Aduja

Melodie Aduja, Chair, OCC Legislative Priorities Committee

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