

SB2783

Measure Title: RELATING TO THE HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY.

Report Title: Public Housing; State Low-income Housing; Elder or Elderly Housing; Smoking Prohibited

Description: Prohibits smoking in and around public housing projects and state low-income housing projects under the jurisdiction of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority and in and around elder or elderly housing.

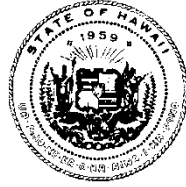
Companion: [HB2356](#)

Package: Governor

Current Referral: CPH/HOU

Introducer(s): KOUCHI (Introduced by request of another party)

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 COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH
And
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

Tuesday, February 20, 2018
2:45 PM
Conference Room 225, Hawaii State Capitol

In consideration of
SB 2783
RELATING TO THE HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY

Honorable Chair Baker, Honorable Chair Espero, and Members of the Senate Committees on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health, and Housing, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony for Senate Bill (SB) 2783, relating to the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

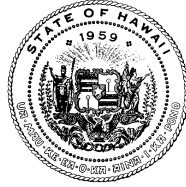
The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) **strongly supports** SB 2783. This Administrative bill will conform the smoking prohibition statute of the HPHA with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) "smoke-free" policy under Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 965 and 966.

Effective February 3, 2017, HUD instituted its final rule requiring public housing agencies to implement a "smoke-free" policy by July 30, 2018. While the HPHA currently possesses a well-established "smoke-free" statute, passed by the legislature in 2013, and internal smoke-free policies, changes need to be made to abide by Federal standards of no smoking up to twenty-five (25) feet away from public housing units and administrative office buildings.

In addition to seeking a revision of HPHA's prohibition on smoking statute, the HPHA is also including this change in the agency's Public Housing Authority Annual Plan, its tenant leases, and Administrative Rules.

The HPHA appreciates the opportunity to provide the Committees with the HPHA's testimony regarding SB 2783. We thank you very much for your dedicated support.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AGENCY



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony in SUPPORT of S.B. 2783
RELATING TO THE HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY**

SENATOR ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

SENATOR WILL ESPERO, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

Hearing Date: February 20, 2018

Room Number: 225

1 **Fiscal Implications:** None.

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (DOH) supports Senate Bill 2783 (S.B.
3 2783) to clarify and expand the no-smoking radius around public housing projects, elder or
4 elderly housing, and state low-income housing projects to twenty-five feet to comply with the
5 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Smoke-Free Public Housing
6 policy.

7 S.B. 2783 amends §356D-6.5 Hawaii Revised Statutes to clarify and expand the no-
8 smoking radius around public housing projects, elder or elderly housing, and state low-income
9 housing projects from twenty feet to twenty-five feet from each individual building and each
10 administrative office building in a public housing project, state low-income housing project, and
11 elder or elderly housing, under the jurisdiction of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA).

12 HUD published the final rule on December 5, 2016. The rules went into effect on
13 February 3, 2017, and every public housing agency (PHA) is required to implement the no-
14 smoking policies by the deadline of July 31, 2018. These proposed amendments align Hawaii's
15 existing laws in Chapter 356D-6.5 HRS to the federal rules (24 CFR 965.653, 24 CFR 965.655).

1 In the United States, the cigarette smoking prevalence is higher among low-income adults
2 and individuals who reside in federally assisted housing. These individuals are particularly
3 susceptible to the adverse effects of smoking and secondhand smoke exposure.¹ An interagency
4 study conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and HUD found that
5 adults living in federal assisted housing have a smoking rate (33.6%) which is twice as high as
6 the national smoking rate (15.5%).^{2, 3, 4} The smoke-free public housing policy, is part of the
7 comprehensive tobacco prevention strategy to improve health outcomes, especially for people
8 who are experiencing the greatest health disparities.

9 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

¹ Cigarette smoking and adverse health outcomes among adults receiving federal housing assistance...
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/28192095> retrieved January 23, 2018

² Helms, V.E., King, B.A., Ashley, P.J. (2017) Cigarette smoking and adverse health outcomes among adults receiving federal housing assistance. Preventive Medicine. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/28192095>

³ Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids. Toll of Tobacco in the United States of America. (January 19, 2018)
<https://www.tobaccofreekids.org/assets/factsheets/0072.pdf> retrieved January 23, 2018.

⁴ Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids. New Study Finds Smoking Rate Twice as High for Adults in Federally Assisted Housing, Highlighting Importance of Smoke-Free Public Housing Rule. (March 2, 2017) https://www.tobaccofreekids.org/press-releases/2017_03_02_hud retrieved January 23, 2018.

SB-2783

Submitted on: 2/17/2018 10:31:21 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/20/2018 2:45:00 PM

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

Comments:

**PRESENTATION OF THE
OAHU COUNTY COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES
DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAII
TO THE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH
AND
COMMITTEE ON HOUSING
THE SENATE
TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2018
Tuesday, February 20, 2018
2:45 p.m.**

Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 225

RE: Testimony in Support of SB 2783 RELATING TO THE HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY

To the Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair; the Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Vice-Chair and the Members of the Committee on Consumer Protection and Health:

To the Honorable Will Espero, Chair; the Honorable Breene Harimoto, Vice-Chair and the Members of the Committee on Housing:

Good afternoon. 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.2783 relating to public housing; State low-income housing; elder or elderly housing; and smoking prohibition.

The OCC Legislative Priorities Committee is in favor of Senate Bill No 2783 and supports its passage.

Senate Bill No. 2783 is in alignment with the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i ("DPH"), 2016, as it prohibits smoking in and around public housing projects and State low-income housing projects under the jurisdiction of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority and in and around elder or elderly housing.

The DPH Platform states that "[w]e support community health initiatives that provide opportunities for the overall health of communities through strategic projects and programs focusing on increased interaction and physical activities among all age groups, as well as on better nutrition. (Platform of the DPH, P. 7, Lines 387-390 (2016)).

Given that Senate Bill No.2783 prohibits smoking in and around public housing projects and State low-income housing projects under the jurisdiction of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority and in and around elder or elderly housing, 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

Email: legislativepriorities@gmail.com, Tel.: (808) 258-8889



Date: February 16, 2018

To: The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health

The Honorable Will Espero, Chair
The Honorable Breene Harimoto, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Housing

From: Trish La Chica, Policy and Advocacy Director, Hawai'i Public Health Institute

Re: **Support for SB2783, Relating to the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority**

Hrg: February 20, 2018 at 2:45pm at Capitol Room 225

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **SUPPORT** of SB2783, which would expand the no smoking radius around public housing projects managed by the Hawai'i Public Housing Authority (HPHA) from 20 feet to 25 feet, and align HPHA's policy with HUD's federal rule.

The Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawai'i (Coalition) is a program of the Hawai'i Public Health Institute (HIPHI) that is dedicated to reducing tobacco use through education, policy, and advocacy. With more than two decades of history in Hawai'i, the Coalition has led several campaigns on enacting smoke-free environments, including being the first state in the nation to prohibit the sale of tobacco and electronic smoking devices to purchasers under 21 years of age.

The Coalition supports initiatives that aim to protect all public housing residents from the dangers of secondhand and thirdhand smoke. In 2014, the State Legislature enacted a law prohibiting smoking in all public housing, elder or elderly household (HRS 356D-1) and state low-income housing project (HRS 356D-51) affecting more than 80 properties. This rule provides protections from smoking in all indoor private and common areas as well as outdoor common areas and within **20 feet** of buildings and common areas on properties that are managed by HPHA.

The Coalition has supported and partnered with HPHA, Hawai'i State Department of Health Tobacco Prevention and Education Program and Public Health Nursing Branch to assist in the implementation and enforcement of smoke-free policies since 2014.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) released a final rule that requires all public housing properties managed by public housing authorities to implement a smoke-free policy by July 30, 2018. The smoke-free policy, at minimum, must ban the use of prohibited tobacco products within all indoor areas and extends to all outdoor areas within **25 feet** of those areas.

SB2783 would bring the current smoke-free public housing law into compliance with the federal rule. The deadline to comply with the minimum HUD requirements is July 30, 2018.

Thank you for the opportunity to in support of SB2783.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Trish', written in a cursive style.

Trish La Chica
Policy and Advocacy Director

SB-2783

Submitted on: 2/16/2018 3:44:33 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/20/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
CSpellman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2783

Submitted on: 2/19/2018 12:18:36 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/20/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lani Hernandez	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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Submitted on: 2/20/2018 6:29:20 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/20/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Zehner	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Changing 20 feet to 25 feet? What a waste of legislative time.

The bill should instead be amended to allow smoking in individual housing units because the ban HAS NOT been accepted by the residents.

SB-2783

Submitted on: 2/20/2018 7:39:39 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/20/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Anthony Orozco	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Repeal the ban in public housing!

SB-2783

Submitted on: 2/20/2018 10:31:34 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/20/2018 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jake J. Watkins	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: