
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING APPROVAL FROM THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION FOR
A PROPOSED LOW-INCOME AND WORKFORCE HOUSING PROJECT LOCATED
WITHIN THE FOOTPRINT OF FEDERALLY-FUNDED INTERSTATE
HIGHWAY, F.A.P. NO. I-H1-1(13), EWA OF HUGH STREET IN PEARL
CITY AND URGING THE GOVERNOR TO USE OHANA ZONE PILOT
PROGRAM FUNDS FOR THE PROJECT.

1 WHEREAS, in 2018, over 6,500 individuals experienced
2 homelessness in Hawaii, according to Partners in Care's annual
3 point in time survey; and
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5 WHEREAS; while market rental rates in Hawaii are among the
6 highest in the nation and overall cost of living is the highest,
7 average household income in the State is among the lowest; and
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9 WHEREAS, Hawaii's income to expense gap has consistently
10 widened over the past ten years as rents, particularly in
11 Honolulu, have consistently risen faster than both wages and
12 inflation; and
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14 WHEREAS, the State's stock of affordable housing stock is
15 insufficient to meet demand, especially for the lowest income
16 households, for which affordable housing is available to less
17 than one-third of households; and
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19 WHEREAS, Housing First is a nationally recognized best
20 practice proven to be the most effective and efficient approach
21 to help people experiencing chronic homelessness get and stay
22 off the streets by immediately moving them from the streets or
23 homeless shelters into their own apartments; and
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25 WHEREAS, many county, state, and private interests are
26 working together to find innovative solutions to homelessness



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1 and Hawaii's housing crisis that adhere to the Housing First
2 model; and

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4 WHEREAS, one such initiative is a planned transitional
5 housing pilot project on Oahu to be placed on land subject to
6 the jurisdiction of the Federal Highway Administration, use of
7 which requires one or more permits or approvals from the Federal
8 Highway Administration; and

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10 WHEREAS, one location subject to the jurisdiction of the
11 Federal Highway Administration that has been identified as a
12 potential location for a low-income and workforce housing
13 project is the property located beneath the H-1 viaduct,
14 Interstate Highway, F.A.P. No. I-H1-1(13), Ewa of Hugh Street in
15 Pearl City; and

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17 WHEREAS, as part of the planning and preparation for the
18 housing pilot project, the project developers will soon begin
19 submitting preliminary applications for federal approval; now,
20 therefore,

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22 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
23 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of
24 2020, the Senate concurring, that the Federal Highway
25 Administration is requested to approve a proposed low-income and
26 workforce housing project located within the footprint of
27 federally-funded interstate highway, F.A.P. No. I-H1-1(13), Ewa
28 of Hugh Street in Pearl City; and

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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Federal Highway
31 Administration is requested to timely process applications for
32 permits and approvals necessary for the development of the
33 proposed low-income and workforce housing project on land
34 subject to Federal Highway Administration jurisdiction and
35 timely approve applications that meet eligibility criteria; and

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37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor is urged to use
38 part of the Ohana Zones Pilot Program funds appropriated in Act
39 209, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, to support the development of
40 the proposed low-income and workforce housing project under the
41 H-1 viaduct; and



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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Division Director of
 3 the Western Federal Lands Highway Division of the Federal
 4 Highway Administration, Governor, Director of Transportation,
 5 and Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu.

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OFFERED BY: James S King
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