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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HOUSING.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1 SECTION 1. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by  
2 adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read  
3 as follows:

4 "CHAPTER

5 AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVOCATE

6 § -1 Affordable housing advocate office; qualifications;  
7 duties. (a) There is established the office of the affordable  
8 housing advocate, to be placed within the office of the  
9 governor, which shall be headed by the affordable housing  
10 advocate. The affordable housing advocate shall be appointed,  
11 without regard to section 26-34, by the governor to serve a term  
12 of four years concurrent with the term of the governor.

13 (b) The person appointed as the affordable housing  
14 advocate shall be experienced in affordable housing issues and  
15 development, United States Department of Housing and Urban  
16 Development programs and regulations, interpretation of state



1 and federal laws and rules, arbitration and negotiation, and  
2 investigation.

3 (c) The affordable housing advocate shall:

4 (1) Work with all state agencies that manage land to solve  
5 the housing shortage, with attention given to the  
6 needs of Hawaii's non-homeowner residents for  
7 assistance to reach the stability of homeownership or  
8 long-term secure rentals;

9 (2) Monitor, comment, and report on the State's production  
10 of affordable housing units, the development and  
11 implementation of federal, state, and local laws,  
12 applicable federal regulations, affordable housing  
13 policies, and actions that pertain to affordable  
14 housing, and shall recommend changes as necessary;

15 (3) Seek administrative, legal, or other remedies to carry  
16 out this chapter; and

17 (4) Carry out all other responsibilities as provided by  
18 state or federal law."

19 SECTION 2. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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**Report Title:**

Affordable Housing Advocate; Office of the Affordable Housing Advocate; Publicly-subsidized Affordable and Public Housing

**Description:**

Establishes the office of the affordable housing advocate to work with all state agencies that manage land to solve the housing shortage, and monitor, comment, and report on the State's production of affordable housing units, the development and implementation of laws, regulations, and policies relating to affordable housing. (SD1)

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