

JAN 23 2020

A BILL FOR AN ACT

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE IX, SECTION 5, OF THE
CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF HAWAII.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the Universal
2 Declaration of Human Rights adopted by the United Nations'
3 General Assembly in 1948 provides that everyone has the right to
4 a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of
5 himself and his family, including housing. While the
6 Constitution of the State of Hawaii states that "[e]ach person
7 has the right to a clean and healthful environment, as defined
8 by laws relating to environmental quality", it does not provide
9 access to housing for all residents.

10 The legislature further finds that although Hawaii has had
11 unmet housing needs for decades, today the State is in crisis
12 mode as more people face the challenge of moving out of state or
13 living in multi-household housing to avoid homelessness. The
14 entire State, government at all levels, the private sector, non-
15 profit agencies, and individuals, must focus on creating the
16 supply to meet the demand for housing for all residents.



1 Guaranteed access to housing demonstrates the State's commitment
2 to housing as a basic right and preserves quality of life.
3 Housing for all residents should be as important a priority as
4 the right to a clean and healthful environment, which is already
5 enshrined in the state constitution.

6 The purpose of this Act is to propose an amendment to
7 article IX, section 5, of the Constitution of the State of
8 Hawaii to require the State to assure that each resident has
9 access to housing as provided by law.

10 SECTION 2. Article IX, section 5, of the Constitution of
11 the State of Hawaii is amended to read as follows:

12 "HOUSING, [~~SLUM-CLEARANCE,~~] DEVELOPMENT
13 AND REHABILITATION

14 Section 5. The State shall assure that each resident has
15 access to housing as provided by law. The State shall have the
16 power to provide for, or assist in, housing, [~~slum-clearance~~]
17 the elimination of blighted areas and the development or
18 rehabilitation of substandard areas. The exercise of such power
19 is deemed to be for a public use and purpose."

20 SECTION 3. The question to be printed on the ballot shall
21 be as follows:



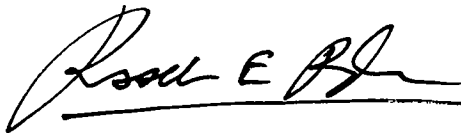
1 "Should the Constitution of the State of Hawaii be amended
 2 to require that the State shall assure that each resident
 3 has access to housing as provided by law?"

4 SECTION 4. Constitutional material to be repealed is
 5 bracketed and stricken. New constitutional material is
 6 underscored.

7 SECTION 5. This amendment shall take effect upon
 8 compliance with article XVII, section 3, of the Constitution of
 9 the State of Hawaii.

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INTRODUCED BY:

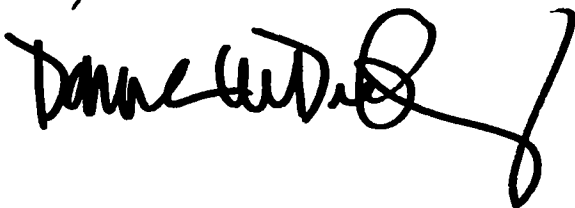


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S.B. NO. 3063

Report Title:

Constitutional Amendment; Access to Housing

Description:

Proposes an amendment to article IX, section 5, of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii, to require the State to assure that each resident has access to housing as provided by law.

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