
SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS TO CONDUCT AN ANALYSIS AND PROVIDE DATA ON THE NUMBER OF DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS BENEFICIARIES WHO HAVE APPLIED FOR AND NEED HOUSING IN EACH COUNTY, BY INCOME CLASSIFICATION AND UNIT TYPE.

1 WHEREAS, the United States Congress passed the Hawaiian
2 Homes Commission Act in 1921, which was authored by Prince Kuhio
3 Kalaniana'ole, and which dedicated 203,000 acres of land in
4 Hawaii to benefit native Hawaiians; and

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6 WHEREAS, the purpose of the Act was, and is, to restore the
7 cultural link between native Hawaiians and the land and to
8 provide native Hawaiians the stability, financial equity, and
9 economic self-sufficiency that comes from land and home
10 ownership; and

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12 WHEREAS, since the Act was signed into law almost one
13 hundred years ago, only approximately ten thousand homesteads
14 have been resettled and nearly twenty-eight thousand
15 beneficiaries remain on the waitlist; and

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17 WHEREAS, for the future of native Hawaiians and their
18 well-being, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands is mandated to
19 fulfill its purpose by providing housing for native Hawaiian
20 beneficiaries; and

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22 WHEREAS, in 2019 a study was conducted for the Hawaii
23 Housing Development Corporation of the housing need of Hawaii
24 residents by area median income (income classification),
25 preference for ownership or rental of housing (preferred
26 tenancy), and single- or multi-family unit (unit type) per
27 county (the 2019 Hawaii Housing Planning Study); and

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29 WHEREAS, SMS Research & Marketing Services found that of
30 the native Hawaiian households surveyed, eleven percent were



1 living on Hawaiian homestead land (12,755 households) in 2019,
2 similar to 2016; and

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4 WHEREAS, among native Hawaiian households, twenty percent
5 had at least one member on the waitlist to receive a Department
6 of Hawaiian Home Lands award (23,883 households) on which they
7 intended to reside and of those households, only about three-
8 quarters (seventy-three percent) were sure that they intend to
9 have a house on that land; and

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11 WHEREAS, an additional 21,399 native Hawaiian households
12 stated that they have a household member eligible to apply for a
13 Hawaiian home lands lease but were not yet a leaseholder nor an
14 applicant; and

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16 WHEREAS, the study was conducted based on the housing need
17 of Hawaii residents, in general, and did not specifically
18 include the housing need of Hawaiian homes beneficiaries; now,
19 therefore,

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21 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
22 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, that the
23 Department of Hawaiian Home Lands is requested to conduct an
24 analysis and provide data on the number of Department of
25 Hawaiian Home Lands beneficiaries who have applied for and need
26 housing in each county, by income classification and unit type;
27 and

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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the data also include the
30 number of Department of Hawaiian Home Lands beneficiaries who
31 are not included in the data because they could not be contacted
32 or have never applied for a housing lease; and

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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the data requested in this
35 measure be submitted to the Legislature in a form consistent
36 with Table 33 of the 2019 Hawaii Housing Planning Study no later
37 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session
38 of 2021; and

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40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
41 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Hawaiian
42 Homes Commission, Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the



- 1 Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and Executive Director of the Hawaii
- 2 Housing Finance and Development Corporation.

