

JAN 17 2020

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# SENATE RESOLUTION

STRONGLY URGING THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ALLOW HAWAIIAN HOMESTEADS TO BE DIRECT RECIPIENTS OF FEDERAL NATIVE HAWAIIAN HOUSING BLOCK GRANTS UNDER THE NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING ASSISTANCE AND SELF-DETERMINATION ACT.

1           WHEREAS, WHEREAS, the Native American Housing Assistance  
2 and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA) was passed in 1996 and  
3 established a block grant program to transform the way American  
4 Indians and Alaska Natives provided affordable housing on rural  
5 Indian reservations and Alaska Native villages; and

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7           WHEREAS, the United States Congress amended NAHASDA in 2000  
8 by adding Title VIII to provide similar funding for Native  
9 Hawaiian families whose total household income is at or below  
10 eighty percent of the established area median income levels for  
11 their respective counties, and who are eligible to reside on  
12 Hawaiian home lands; and

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14           WHEREAS, the stated objectives of the NAHASDA are to assist  
15 native communities in achieving the goals of economic self-  
16 sufficiency and self-determination, which should include  
17 recognizing the special and independent nature of each Hawaiian  
18 homestead; and

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20           WHEREAS, the federal government's financial investment into  
21 affordable housing activities in Hawaiian homestead communities  
22 through the Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant has been  
23 steadily decreasing since its highest award of \$12,700,000 in  
24 2010 to only \$2,000,000 in 2019, 2018, and 2017, with no federal  
25 appropriations made in 2016; and

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27           WHEREAS, Hawaii is experiencing a critical affordable  
28 housing shortage and more funding, not less, is needed to  
29 support infrastructure development, home construction and  
30 rehabilitation programs, direct loans, and housing subsidies for  
31 Native Hawaiian families; and

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1 WHEREAS, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands is the  
2 designated recipient for the Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant  
3 as administered by the United States Department of Housing and  
4 Urban Development; and

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6 WHEREAS, designating individual Hawaiian homesteads in the  
7 State of Hawaii to be direct recipients of Native Hawaiian  
8 Housing Block Grants, in addition to the Department of Hawaiian  
9 Home Lands, could expedite the effective utilization of these  
10 funds and expand affordable housing opportunities for low-income  
11 families and individuals living on, or desiring to live on  
12 Hawaiian homesteads; now, therefore,

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14 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature  
15 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, that the United  
16 States Department of Housing and Urban Development and the  
17 Congress of the United States are strongly urged to provide  
18 additional federal funds for Native Hawaiian Housing Block  
19 Grants under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-  
20 Determination Act; and

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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Department of  
23 Housing and Urban Development and the Congress of the United  
24 States are strongly urged to designate individual Hawaiian  
25 homesteads as direct recipients of Native Hawaiian Housing Block  
26 Grants; and

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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Department of  
29 Housing and Urban Development and the Congress of the United  
30 States are strongly urged to identify and secure other forms of  
31 direct assistance to the State of Hawaii to address affordable  
32 housing needs of the Native Hawaiian population; and

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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
35 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States,  
36 United States Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, United  
37 States Secretary of the Interior, Majority Leader of the United




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1 States Senate, Speaker of the United States House of  
2 Representatives, Chairperson of the Hawaiian Homes Commission,  
3 Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian  
4 Affairs, and members of Hawaii's congressional delegation.

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OFFERED BY: \_\_\_\_\_



By Request

