
SENATE RESOLUTION

STRONGLY URGING THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FEDERAL FUNDS FOR NATIVE HAWAIIAN HOUSING BLOCK GRANTS UNDER THE NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING ASSISTANCE AND SELF-DETERMINATION ACT AND IDENTIFY AND SECURE OTHER FORMS OF DIRECT ASSISTANCE TO ADDRESS THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING NEEDS OF THE NATIVE HAWAIIAN POPULATION AND URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS TO ASSIST AND TRAIN INDIVIDUAL HAWAIIAN HOMESTEADS ON THE TECHNICAL ASPECTS AND PROCESSES INVOLVED IN EXPENDING AND UTILIZING NATIVE HAWAIIAN HOUSING BLOCK GRANTS.

1 WHEREAS, the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-
2 Determination Act (NAHASDA) was passed in 1996 and established a
3 block grant program to transform the way American Indians and
4 Alaska Natives were provided affordable housing on rural Indian
5 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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2 WHEREAS, Hawaii is experiencing a critical affordable
3 housing shortage and more funding, not less, is needed to
4 support infrastructure development, home construction and
5 rehabilitation programs, direct loans, and housing subsidies for
6 Native Hawaiian families; and
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8 WHEREAS, the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands is the
9 designated recipient for the Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant
10 as administered by the United States Department of Housing and
11 Urban Development; and
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13 WHEREAS, designating individual Hawaiian homesteads in the
14 State of Hawaii to be direct recipients of Native Hawaiian
15 Housing Block Grants, in addition to the Department of Hawaiian
16 Home Lands, could expedite the effective utilization of these
17 funds and expand affordable housing opportunities for low-income
18 families and individuals living on, or desiring to live on
19 Hawaiian homesteads; now, 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 United
23 States Department of Housing and Urban Development and the
24 Congress of the United States are strongly urged to provide
25 additional federal funds for Native Hawaiian Housing Block
26 Grants under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-
27 Determination Act; and
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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Department of
30 Housing and Urban Development and the Congress of the United
31 States are strongly urged to identify and secure other forms of
32 direct assistance to the State of Hawaii to address the
33 affordable housing needs of the Native Hawaiian population; and
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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Hawaiian Home
36 Lands is urged to assist and train individual Hawaiian
37 homesteads on the technical aspects and processes involved in
38 expending and utilizing Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grants;
39 and
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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
42 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States,



1 United States Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, United
2 States Secretary of the Interior, Majority Leader of the United
3 States Senate, Speaker of the United States House of
4 Representatives, Chairperson of the Hawaiian Homes Commission,
5 Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian
6 Affairs, and members of Hawaii's congressional delegation.

