

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

47

Honolulu, Hawaii

February 5, 2019

RE: H.B. No. 1403
H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirtieth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2019
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Housing, to which was referred H.B. No. 1403 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HOUSING,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to require the counties to implement a streamlined permit approval process, including an exemption from the environmental impact statement requirement, for certain housing development projects that commence between July 1, 2019 and July 1, 2026.

The Department of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu, Sierra Club of Hawai'i and several individuals submitted testimony in opposition to this measure. The Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation, Office of Environmental Quality Control, Hawaiian Community Assets, Life of the Land, and an individual submitted comments on this measure.

Your Committee notes the testimony of Hawaiian Community Assets that there is a delicate balance between affordable housing development and the preservation of cultural and environmental resources, and that environmental impact statements are necessary for sustainable development, effective management, and environment conservation.

HB1403 HD1 HSCR HSG HMS 2019-1586



Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing its effective date to January 1, 2050, to promote further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1403, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1403, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Housing,



TOM BROWER, Chair



