



STANFORD CARR DEVELOPMENT, LLC

LATE

▪ March 21, 2022

The Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura, Chair
The Honorable Troy N. Hashimoto, Vice Chair
and Members of the House Committee on Housing

Re: Testimony in Support – HCR 126 and HR 126 Urging all State and County Agencies to Follow the True Intent of Chapter 201H, Hawaii Revised Statutes and the Express Provisions of Section 201H-38, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Hearing: March 22, 2022 at 10:00 A.M.
State Capitol, House Conference Room 423 Via Videoconference

Dear Chair Nakamura, Vice Chair Hashimoto, and Members of the Committee on Housing:

Stanford Carr Development submits testimony in **strong support** of HCR 126 and HR 126 which compels the counties to follow the true intent and express provisions of Hawaii Revised Statutes Chapter 201H.

Act 350 enacted during the 1997 Regular Session of the Nineteenth State Legislature recognized the critical need for housing affordability and availability, further noting the cost added by government regulation. In the public interest of expediting affordable housing, Act 350 created Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) section 201E-118 requiring counties to approve or disapprove a project within 45 days or on the forty-sixth day a project is deemed approved.

The 2005 Regular Session of the Twenty-Third Legislature enacted Act 196 whereby section 35 established a joint legislative housing and homeless task force to further identify solutions to Hawaii's affordable housing problem. Recommendations of the task force included a need to "streamline government approvals and permitting of affordable housing projects."

As reported by Hawaii Business Magazine on January 25, 2022, the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation reports that the 201H process has successfully supported construction of 12,000 units to date for families earning less than 140% AMI.

Given the stated priority of all four county councils to support development of affordable housing along with the success of the 201H process, it seems appropriate to expect the councils to consistently implement Chapter 201H applications along with providing timely review and approval.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on this critical policy.

Respectfully,


Stanford S. Carr