

STATE OF HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM
HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
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IN REPLY REFER TO:

Statement of DENISE ISERI-MATSUBARA

Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation

Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

April 01, 2022 at 1:05 p.m. State Capitol, Room 229

In consideration of S.C.R. 178/ S.R. 171

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION AND THE ISLAND BURIAL COUNCILS, TO CONTRACT REVIEW OF PROPOSED AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECTS TO THIRD PARTY CONSULTANTS.

HHFDC <u>offers comments</u> on S.C.R. 178/ S.R. 171. This resolution requests that DLNR's SHPD contract its review of certain projects to eligible third party consultants if they involve the development of affordable housing and SHPD cannot provide written concurrence or non-concurrence within sixty days.

SHPD's engagement of third-party contractors could serve to help expedite the review process so that more affordable housing units can be produced in a timely manner.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR OF HAWAII





STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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Testimony of SUZANNE D. CASE Chairperson

Before the Senate Committees on HOUSING and WATER AND LAND

Friday, April 1, 2022 1:05PM State Capitol, Conference Room 229 & Via Videoconference

In consideration of SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 178/SENATE RESOLUTION 171 REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION AND THE ISLAND BURIAL COUNCILS, TO CONTRACT REVIEW OF PROPOSED AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECTS TO THIRD PARTY CONSULTANTS.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 178/Senate Resolution 171 requests the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department), through the State Historic Preservation Division and in consultation with the various Island Burial Councils, to contract review of proposed affordable housing projects to qualified third-party consultants when necessary to expedite review of affordable housing developments providing that at least 80% of the units will be affordable. **The Department appreciates the intent of these resolutions and offers comments**.

The Department recognizes Hawaii's housing crisis and the need to expedite the development and delivery of additional housing units, especially low income and affordable units. The Department also recognizes that expediting the various review processes established by Chapter 6E, Hawaii Revised Statutes, may be helpful in accelerating development of affordable housing. The Department is actively working on a number of improvements that will expedite these reviews, some of which are included in draft legislation already included in proposed measures before the Legislature in in 2022 Session. The Department will continue to explore other changes and improvements to expedite review procedures while still ensuring proper protection of Hawaii's significant historic properties, and propose legislative measures to expedite reviews as necessary.

The Department believes that these resolutions are well intended but notes that in the absence of funds it will be impossible to contract with third-party consultant. Neither the Department nor the State Historic Preservation Division has funds to enter into such contracts. Funding for such

SUZANNE D. CASE

CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ROBERT K. MASUDA FIRST DEPUTY

M.KALEO MANUEL

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

contracts is not included in the Governor's budget request for the coming fiscal year. Accordingly, if Senate Concurrent Resolution 178/Senate Resolution 171 are adopted, the Department would be directed to enter into contracts that it can not fund.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these measures.