

MAR 09 2023

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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO INTRODUCE AND  
SUPPORT LEGISLATION TO AMEND TITLE IV-A OF THE SOCIAL  
SECURITY ACT TO ALLOW TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY  
FAMILIES FUNDS TO BE USED BY STATES TO BUILD TRANSITIONAL  
SUPPORTIVE HOUSING AND AFFORDABLE RENTAL HOUSING.

1           WHEREAS, as of 2020, Hawaii has collected more than  
2 \$380,000,000 in unspent Temporary Assistance for Needy Families  
3 (TANF) block grant funds, which is three hundred eighty-five  
4 percent of the State's annual TANF block grant of \$99,000,000;  
5 and

6  
7           WHEREAS, according to the Center on Budget and Policy  
8 Priorities, Hawaii's unspent TANF reserves are the second  
9 highest in the nation as a proportion of states' annual block  
10 grants; and

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12           WHEREAS, Hawaii has one of the highest rates of  
13 homelessness in the nation; and

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15           WHEREAS, Hawaii has the least affordable rental housing in  
16 the nation; and

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18           WHEREAS, according to the National Low Income Housing  
19 Coalition's 2022 "Out of Reach" report, an individual would need  
20 to earn \$31.15 an hour to afford a one-bedroom apartment in  
21 Hawaii; and

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23           WHEREAS, a minimum wage worker would need to work one  
24 hundred twenty-three hours a week to be able to afford a one-  
25 bedroom apartment at fair market rent; and

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# S.C.R. NO. 55

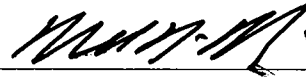
1           WHEREAS, although TANF funds can be used to provide rent  
2 subsidies, such subsidies are meant to be used on a short-term  
3 basis; and

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5           WHEREAS, developing a more robust inventory of affordable  
6 rental units will reduce rents statewide and enable more of the  
7 State's low-income families to be able to afford housing; now,  
8 therefore,

9  
10          BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second  
11 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, the  
12 House of Representatives concurring, that Hawaii's congressional  
13 delegation is urged to introduce and support legislation to  
14 amend Title IV-A of the Social Security Act to allow Temporary  
15 Assistance for Needy Families funds to be used by states to  
16 build transitional supportive housing and affordable rental  
17 housing; and

18  
19          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
20 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to each member of Hawaii's  
21 congressional delegation.

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23  
24  
OFFERED BY:



**By Request**

