

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR



DEAN MINAKAMI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM
HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
677 QUEEN STREET, SUITE 300
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
FAX: (808) 587-0600

Statement of **DEAN MINAKAMI**

Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation
Before the

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

Wednesday, March 20, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 312

In consideration of
HCR 131/ HR 112

URGING THE HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION TO DEVELOP A TEN-YEAR PLAN TO SATISFY HAWAII'S HOUSING DEMAND.

Chair Evslin, Vice Chair Aiu, and members of the Committee.

HHFDC **offers the following comments** on HCR 131/ HR 112.

HHFDC recognizes that there is a severe housing shortage in Hawaii.

We submit that numerous systemic barriers which impede housing development in Hawaii should be addressed in advance of the preparation of any reasonably implementable plan to accelerate production in the state. These factors include inadequate infrastructure; restrictive land use and zoning policies; lengthy and complex regulatory processes; community opposition; and high construction and financing costs.

Through the Office of the Governor, the State of Hawaii recently applied for \$9.9 million in Pathways to Removing Obstacles to Housing (PRO Housing) grant funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to address several of the aforementioned factors. HHFDC believes such an effort is necessary to lay the groundwork before a realistic plan to accelerate housing production is developed and implemented. We support such efforts.

For the reasons stated above, HHFDC is unable to, 20 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2025, submit to the Legislature a 10-year plan to satisfy the state's enormous unmet housing demand.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this resolution.