



COMMENTS ON HCR 75

REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, INCLUDING THE NAVY, ARMY, AND AIR FORCE, TO INCREASE ON-BASE HOUSING AVAILABILITY FOR ACTIVE DUTY PERSONNEL AND THEIR DEPENDENTS ASSIGNED TO MILITARY INSTALLATIONS IN THE STATE

Senate Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Chair
The Honorable Brandon J.C. Elefante, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Housing
The Honorable Stanley Chang, Chair
The Honorable Troy Hashimoto, Vice Chair

Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at 3:00 p.m.
Conference Room 225 & Videoconference

Chairs Wakai and Chang, Vice Chairs Elefante and Hashimoto and Members of the Committees:

The Hawaii Military Affairs Council ("MAC") **offers comments** on HCR 75.

The MAC was established in 1985 when the Chamber was appointed by the State to serve as the liaison to the military. The MAC advocates on behalf of Hawaii's military, and is comprised of business leaders, academic institutions, State and County officials, members of the Congressional Delegation (CODEL), community leaders, labor unions and organizations and retired U.S. flag and general officers. The MAC works to support Hawaii's location as a strategic U.S. headquarters in the Indo-Asia-Pacific region which is crucial for U.S. national and homeland security.

Service branches and the MAC have been actively working and discussing with our CODEL to address accessibility of homes and the high occupancy rates on military bases.



Specifically, the FY 2024 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) makes significant investments in infrastructure projects for military family housing and the replacement of poor and failing unaccompanied housing. It enacts numerous U.S. Government Accountability Office (U.S. GAO) recommendations to improve both family and unaccompanied housing. Specifically, it authorizes \$1.5 billion in investments for military family housing, adds \$205 million to the barracks replacement fund, and authorizes the investment of \$392 million for construction, planning, and design of barracks and dormitories across the defense enterprise.

Additionally, through our active engagement with our CODEL, Sec. 2874 of the FY 2024 NDAA provides that there be a Joint Housing Requirements and Market Analysis for each covered military installation in Hawaii.

This is a priority for the MAC and we are taking this seriously and reviewing the best options to be able to do our part to alleviate the affordable housing strain in Hawaii. We will continue to work with all parties to set forth a plan to increase the military housing inventory for military families and service members.

We will be pleased to keep the Committees informed of our efforts and believe this resolution is not necessary.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments on this matter.

HCR-75

Submitted on: 4/5/2024 5:05:02 PM

Testimony for PSM on 4/10/2024 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lois Crozer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Finally it got through to someone that a huge factor of higher housing costs is the military presence here in Hawaii. Their rents are subsidized, and they take a lot of the housing that could go to locals, but who is local anyway? Hotels need to provide workforce housing, and the military needs to make more available housing on base, then our neighborhoods will be more affordable.