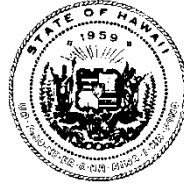


JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR



HAKIM OUANSAFI  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BARBARA E. ARASHIRO  
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY  
1002 NORTH SCHOOL STREET  
POST OFFICE BOX 17907  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO:

Statement of  
**Hakim Ouansafi, Executive Director**  
**Hawaii Public Housing Authority**

Before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING**  
**AND**  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Thursday, March 14, 2024**  
**1:05 PM – Room 225, Hawaii State Capitol**

In consideration of  
**SCR 17 / SR 9**

**REQUESTING THE HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY TO UTILIZE THE STATE’S RENTAL SUPPLEMENT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE HOMEOWNERS INSURANCE PREMIUM ASSISTANCE TO HOUSING OWNERS WHO RENT OR LEASE TO QUALIFIED KUPUNA A MORTGAGE PROPERTY WITHIN DESIGNATED LAVA ZONES**

Honorable Chair Chang and Chair San Buenaventura, and members of the Senate Committee on Housing, and Senate Committee on Health and Human Services, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Senate Concurrent Resolution (SCR) 17 / Senate Resolution (SR) 9.

The Hawaii Public Housing Authority (HPHA) **appreciates the intent** of SCR 17 / SR 9 which requests that the HPHA utilize the State’s Rent Supplement Program to provide homeowners insurance premium assistance to housing owners who rent or lease to qualified kupuna a mortgaged property located within an area designated as lava zone 1 or lava zone 2, as identified by the United States Geological Survey Lava-Flow Hazard Zone Map, Island of Hawaii.

While we sympathize with the people in this situation, please know that the HPHA has no experience in creating or administering insurance premium assistance programs, nor the positions that have the expertise needed to administer insurance premium assistance programs.

The HPHA appreciates the opportunity to provide the Committees with the HPHA’s testimony. We thank you very much for your dedicated support.

**SCR-17**

Submitted on: 3/11/2024 12:33:15 PM

Testimony for HOU on 3/14/2024 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Julia Estigoy-Kahoonei	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Yes I support this bill. The cost of homeowners insurance in lava zones 1-2 have increased dramatically. I am one of the residents whose policy increased 1000% from \$300 annually to nearly \$6000. Luckily we have a bit of a slush fund to afford it but I worry for those kupuna who live alone and are on a fixed income How are they expected to come up with that? This bill will help. I would also like to see for the rest of us some kind of tax credit or even yet, more options for insurance. Having only one company to insure our area is criminal as they can then charge any price they want.

**SCR-17**

Submitted on: 3/11/2024 4:22:46 PM

Testimony for HOU on 3/14/2024 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Andy Kagemoto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In strong support. Thank you Chair Chang and Chair San Buenaventura.

**SCR-17**

Submitted on: 3/11/2024 4:30:24 PM

Testimony for HOU on 3/14/2024 1:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michael H.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In support. Aloha!