JAN 15 2025

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

- SECTION 1. The legislature finds that multiple state

 agencies are responsible for housing. This structure creates

 redundancies and bureaucracies that hinder the work of solving
- 4 Hawaii's housing crisis. Accordingly, the purpose of this Act
- 5 is to consolidate the Hawaii housing finance and development
- 6 corporation, Hawaii community development authority, Hawaii
- 7 public housing authority, and office of planning and sustainable
- 8 development into a new department of housing.
- 9 SECTION 2. Chapter 26, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
- 10 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to
- 11 read as follows:
- 12 "<u>§26-</u> Department of housing. (a) The department of
- 13 housing shall be headed by a single executive to be known as the
- director of housing.
- 15 (b) The department of housing shall:
- 16 <u>(1)</u> Be responsible for:



1		(A) Planning, coordinating, and implementing section
2		226-19; and
3		(B) All aspects of policy and planning relating to
4		the development, redevelopment, preservation,
5		maintenance, and improvement of housing for
6		individuals and families at all income levels;
7	(2)	Strengthen and revitalize communities throughout the
8		State by promoting affordable housing opportunities;
9	(3)	Collaborate with local officials, public agencies,
10		community groups, local housing authorities, and other
11		housing developers to plan for and develop affordable
12		housing units; and
13	(4)	Ensure compliance with applicable statutes,
14		regulations, and financial assistance agreements for
15		funded activities through long-term program compliance
16		monitoring.
17	<u>(c)</u>	The department may adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91
18	as may be	necessary or desirable to fulfill its mission.
19	(d)	The following are placed in the department of housing
20	for admin	strative purposes pursuant to section 26-35:
21	(1)	Hawaii community development authority;

1 (2) Hawaii housing finance and development corporation; Office of planning and sustainable development; 2 (3) 3 Hawaii public housing authority; and (4)Any other agencies, boards, and commissions as shall 4 (5) 5 be provided by law." 6 SECTION 3. Section 26-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is 7 amended to read as follows: 8 "§26-4 Structure of government. Under the supervision of 9 the governor, all executive and administrative offices, 10 departments, and instrumentalities of the state government and 11 their respective functions, powers, and duties shall be 12 allocated among and within the following principal departments that are hereby established: 13 14 (1) Department of human resources development (Section 15 26-5); 16 Department of accounting and general services (Section (2) 17 26-6); 18 Department of the attorney general (Section 26-7); (3) 19 (4)Department of budget and finance (Section 26-8); 20 Department of commerce and consumer affairs (Section (5) 21 26-9);

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         (6)
              Department of taxation (Section 26-10);
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         (7)
              University of Hawaii (Section 26-11);
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         (8)
              Department of education (Section 26-12);
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         (9)
              Department of health (Section 26-13);
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              Department of human services (Section 26-14);
        (10)
6
              Department of land and natural resources (Section
        (11)
7
              26-15);
8
        (12)
              Department of agriculture (Section 26-16);
9
              Department of Hawaiian home lands (Section 26-17);
        (13)
10
        (14)
              Department of business, economic development, and
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              tourism (Section 26-18);
12
        (15)
              Department of transportation (Section 26-19);
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              Department of labor and industrial relations (Section
        (16)
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              26-20);
15
        (17)
              Department of defense (Section 26-21);
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              Department of corrections and rehabilitation (Section
        (18)
17
              26-14.6); [and]
18
        (19)
              Department of law enforcement (Section 26-14.8) [-];
19
              and
20
        (20)
              Department of housing (Section 26- )."
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1 SECTION 4. Section 26-14, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is 2 amended by amending subsection (d) to read as follows: 3 The [Hawaii public housing authority and the] Hawaii 4 state commission on the status of women [are] is placed within 5 the department of human services for administrative purposes 6 only." 7 SECTION 5. Section 26-18, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is 8 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows: 9 The following are placed in the department of business, economic development, and tourism for administrative 10 11 purposes as defined by section 26-35: [Hawaii community 12 development authority, Hawaii housing finance and development corporation, | Hawaii technology development corporation, natural 13 14 energy laboratory of Hawaii authority, and any other boards and 15 commissions as shall be provided by law." SECTION 6. Section 26-52, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is 16 17 amended to read as follows: "§26-52 Department heads and executive officers. 18 19 salaries of the following state officers shall be as follows:

The salary of the superintendent of education shall be

set by the board of education. The superintendent



(1)

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1	shall be subject to an annual performance evaluation
2	that is in alignment with other employee evaluations
3	within the department of education and are based on
4	outcomes determined by the board of education;
5	provided that nothing shall prohibit the board of
6	education from conditioning a portion of the salary on
7	performance;

- (2) The salary of the president of the university of Hawaii shall be set by the board of regents;
- 10 Effective July 1, 2004, the salaries of all department (3) 11 heads or executive officers of the departments of 12 accounting and general services; agriculture; attorney 13 general; budget and finance; business, economic 14 development, and tourism; commerce and consumer 15 affairs; corrections and rehabilitation; Hawaiian home 16 lands; health; housing; human resources development; 17 human services; labor and industrial relations; land 18 and natural resources; law enforcement; taxation; and 19 transportation shall be as last recommended by the 20 executive salary commission. Effective July 1, 2007, 21 and every six years thereafter, the salaries shall be

1		as last recommended by the commission on salaries
2		pursuant to section 26-56, unless rejected by the
3		legislature; and
4	(4)	The salary of the adjutant general shall be \$85,302 a
5		year. Effective July 1, 2007, and every six years
6		thereafter, the salary of the adjutant general shall
7		be as last recommended by the commission on salaries
8		pursuant to section 26-56, unless rejected by the
9		legislature, except that if the state salary is in
10		conflict with the pay and allowance fixed by the
11		tables of the regular Army or Air Force of the United
12		States, the latter shall prevail."
13	SECT	ION 7. Section 225M-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
14	amended t	o read as follows:
15	"§22	5M-1 Purpose. The purpose of this chapter is to
16	establish	an office of planning and sustainable development to
17	assist th	e governor; the director of housing; the director of
18	business,	economic development, and tourism; the legislature;
19	and state	and county agencies in maintaining an overall
20	framework	to guide the development of the State through a
21	continuou	s process of comprehensive, long-range, and strategic

- 1 planning to meet the physical, economic, and social needs of
- 2 Hawaii's people, and provide for the wise use of Hawaii's
- 3 resources in a coordinated, efficient, and economical manner,
- 4 including the conservation of those natural, environmental,
- 5 recreational, scenic, historic, and other limited and
- 6 irreplaceable resources which are required for future
- 7 generations.
- 8 The establishment of an office of planning and sustainable
- 9 development in the department of [business, economic
- 10 development, and tourism, housing, for administrative purposes,
- 11 is intended to:
- 12 (1) Fix responsibility and accountability to successfully
- carry out statewide planning programs, policies, and
- 14 priorities;
- 15 (2) Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the
- operations of the executive branch; and
- 17 (3) Ensure comprehensive planning and coordination to
- enhance the quality of life of the people of Hawaii."
- 19 SECTION 8. Section 356D-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 20 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

1	"(a) There is established the Hawall public housing
2	authority to be placed within the department of [human services
3	housing for administrative purposes only. The authority shall
4	be a public body and a body corporate and politic."
5	SECTION 9. Sections 201H-2, 201H-3, 206E-3, 225M-2,
6	225M-3, and 225M-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, are amended by
7	substituting the phrase "director of housing" wherever the
8	phrase "director of business, economic development, and tourism
9	appears, as the context requires.
10	SECTION 10. Sections 201H-2, 206E-3, and 225M-2, Hawaii
11	Revised Statutes, are amended by substituting the phrase
12	"department of housing" wherever the phrase "department of
13	business, economic development, and tourism" appears, as the
14	context requires.
15	SECTION 11. All rights, powers, functions, and duties of:
16	(1) The department of business, economic development, and
17	tourism relating to the Hawaii housing finance and
18	development corporation pursuant to chapter 201H,
19	Hawaii Revised Statutes; Hawaii community development
20	authority pursuant to chapter 206E, Hawaii Revised
21	Statutes; and office of planning and sustainable

1	development pursuant to chapter 225M, Hawaii Revised
2	Statutes; and
3	(2) The department of human services relating to the
4	Hawaii public housing authority pursuant to chapter
5	356D, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
6	are transferred to the department of housing.
7	All officers and employees whose functions are transferred
8	by this Act shall be transferred with their functions and shall
9	continue to perform their regular duties upon their transfer,
10	subject to the state personnel laws and this Act.
11	No officer or employee of the State having tenure shall
12	suffer any loss of salary, seniority, prior service credit,
13	vacation, sick leave, or other employee benefit or privilege as
14	a consequence of this Act, and the officer or employee may be
15	transferred or appointed to a civil service position without the
16	necessity of examination; provided that the officer or employee
17	possesses the minimum qualifications for the position to which
18	transferred or appointed; and provided that subsequent changes
19	in status may be made pursuant to applicable civil service and
20	compensation laws.

1 An officer or employee of the State who does not have 2 tenure and who may be transferred or appointed to a civil 3 service position as a consequence of this Act shall become a 4 civil service employee without the loss of salary, seniority, 5 prior service credit, vacation, sick leave, or other employee 6 benefits or privileges and without the necessity of examination; provided that such officer or employee possesses the minimum 7 8 qualifications for the position to which transferred or 9 appointed. 10 If an office or position held by an officer or employee 11 having tenure is abolished, the officer or employee shall not 12 thereby be separated from public employment, but shall remain in 13 the employment of the State with the same pay and classification 14 and shall be transferred to some other office or position for 15 which the officer or employee is eligible under the personnel 16 laws of the State as determined by the head of the department or 17 the governor. 18 SECTION 12. All rules, policies, procedures, guidelines, 19 and other material adopted or developed by the transferred 20 agencies to implement provisions of the Hawaii Revised Statutes 21 that are reenacted or made applicable to the department of

- 1 housing by this Act shall remain in full force and effect until
- 2 amended or repealed by the department of housing pursuant to
- 3 chapter 91, Hawaii Revised Statutes. In the interim, every
- 4 reference to the department of business, economic development,
- 5 and tourism and department of human services as they pertain to
- 6 the transferred agencies in those rules, policies, procedures,
- 7 quidelines, and other material is amended to refer to the
- 8 department of housing, as appropriate.
- 9 SECTION 13. All deeds, leases, contracts, loans,
- 10 agreements, permits, or other documents executed or entered into
- 11 by or on behalf of the department of business, economic
- 12 development and tourism and the department of human services as
- 13 they pertain to the transferred agencies pursuant to the
- 14 provisions of the Hawaii Revised Statutes that are reenacted or
- 15 made applicable to the department of housing by this Act shall
- 16 remain in full force and effect. Upon the effective date of
- 17 this Act, every reference to the department of business,
- 18 economic development, and tourism and the department of human
- 19 services as they pertain to the transferred agencies in those
- 20 deeds, leases, contracts, loans, agreements, permits, or other

- 1 documents shall be construed as a reference to the department of
- 2 housing.
- 3 SECTION 14. All appropriations, records, equipment,
- 4 machines, files, supplies, contracts, books, papers, documents,
- 5 maps, and other personal property heretofore made, used,
- 6 acquired, or held by the department of department of business,
- 7 economic development and tourism and the department of human
- 8 services relating to the functions transferred to the department
- 9 of housing shall be transferred with the functions to which they
- 10 relate.
- 11 SECTION 15. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
- 12 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
- 13 SECTION 16. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:



Report Title:

Department of Housing; HCDA; HHFDC; OPSD; HPHA; Establishment; Transfer

Description:

Establishes the Department of Housing. Places the Hawaii Community Development Authority, Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation, Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, and Hawaii Public Housing Authority within the Department of Housing for administrative purposes. Replaces the Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism with the Director of Housing on the Hawaii Community Development Authority.

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