STAND. COM. REP. NO. 705-24

Honolulu, Hawaii FEB 13 , 2024

RE: H.B. No. 2431 H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki Speaker, House of Representatives Thirty-Second State Legislature Regular Session of 2024 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Housing, to which was referred H.B. No. 2431 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE HAWAII PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- Establish the position of Housing Policy and Program Coordinator in the Hawaii Public Housing Authority;
- (2) Clarify that the employment of certain positions and the adjustment of their salaries are authorized by the Executive Director of Hawaii Public Housing Authority and not the Board of Directors; and
- (3) Repeal the wage ceiling requirement for positions in the Hawaii Public Housing Authority.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Public Housing Authority. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO.



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Your Committee finds that the federal government created numerous rule changes through the Housing Opportunity Through Modernization Act and Fair Housing Act. In addition, there is the pending implementation of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's National Standards for the Physical Inspection of Real Estate to assist in improving low-income public housing quality and the health and safety of tenants. Your Committee believes that these new and future policy and program changes will need to be effectively and efficiently researched, coordinated, implemented, and monitored by an expert, such as a Housing Policy and Program Coordinator.

Your Committee notes the concern raised during the public hearing on this measure expressing reservations of having positions that are exempt from civil service protections. The goal of civil service is to protect state employees and ensure that appointments are based on merit and ability determined through a competitive process. Your Committee acknowledges that there may be situations where a position exempt from civil service requirements is more beneficial due to the specific nature of the work. However, your Committee respectfully asks your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider whether an exemption from civil service requirements is necessary for the positions under this measure.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

2024-1298 HB2431 HD1 HSCR HMSO

- Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2431, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2431, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

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Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Housing,

Jnc

LUKE A. EVSLIN, Chair



State of Hawaii House of Representatives The Thirty-second Legislature



Record of Votes of the Committee on Housing

Bill/Resolution No.: HB7431 HS7431	tee Referral: G. FIN	Date	2-7-	24
The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: Pass, unamended (as is) Pass, with amendments (HD) Hold Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
HSG Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. EVSLIN, Luke A. (C)	\checkmark			
2. AIU, Micah P.K. (VC)				
2. Arb, mean r.k. (ve)			- The Argente	
3. KILA, Darius K.				
4. KITAGAWA, Lisa		an a shi ka		neurguidenta
5. MIYAKE, Tyson K.				
6. ONISHI, Richard H.K.				
7. TODD, Chris				
8. MATSUMOTO, Lauren				
·				
TOTAL (8)	5	3		
The recommendation is: Adopted If joint referral, did not support recommendation.				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				