

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1063

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 28 , 2025

RE: H.B. No. 1096
H.D. 1

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2025
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred H.B. No. 1096, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TENANT SELECTION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to repeal the statutorily established tenant selection preferences for disabled veterans and spouses of deceased veterans in the State Low-Income Housing Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Public Housing Authority; Hawai'i Civil Rights Commission; and Disability and Communication Access Board.

Your Committee finds that the Hawaii Public Housing Authority serves the most vulnerable members of the community, including families earning less than thirty percent of the area median income, individuals with disabilities, elderly residents on fixed incomes, and veterans in need of housing assistance. For the State Low-Income Housing Program, the tenant selection preferences are codified in statute. This is in contrast with all of the other programs administered by the Authority, where such preferences are not codified in statute, but rather in the Authority's administrative rules. The codified preferences make it difficult for the Authority to adjust its policies to address

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evolving housing needs. This measure repeals the statutory tenant selection preferences allowing the Authority to address such preferences in its administrative rules.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1096, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Judiciary &
Hawaiian Affairs,



DAVID A. TARNAS, Chair



