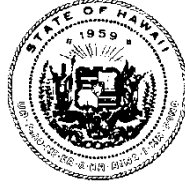


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR



DEAN MINAKAMI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM
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Statement of **DEAN MINAKAMI**

Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation
Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

January 30, 2025 at 1:10 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 225

In consideration of

S.B. 771

RELATING TO THE HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION.

Chair Chang, Vice Chair Hashimoto, and members of the Committee.

HHFDC has comments on SB 771, which repeals the requirement that the Chairperson of the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC) Board of Directors be a public member. It also repeals the prohibition that certain ex officio board members shall not be eligible to serve as Chairperson of the HHFDC Board of Directors.

We believe that the reason why the legislature originally prohibited ex officio board members from serving as Chairperson was to ensure that the Board would be community-oriented and responsive to the concerns and needs of residents. This is reflected in the Board's composition with two-thirds of the Board (six of nine members) being "public" members.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.