THE SENATE THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2025 STATE OF HAWAII S.B. NO. 72

JAN 15 2025

### A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HOUSING.

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

SECTION 1. Section 201H-31, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
amended to read as follows:

3 "[+] \$201H-31[+] Criteria. (a) In administering this 4 chapter and other laws of the State applicable to the supplying 5 of housing or the assistance in obtaining housing, the 6 corporation shall give preference to those applicants most in 7 need of assistance in obtaining housing, in light of the amount 8 of moneys available for the various programs. In doing so, the 9 corporation shall take into consideration the applicant's 10 household income and number of dependents; the age of the 11 applicant; the physical disabilities of the applicant or those 12 living with the applicant; whether or not the present housing of 13 the applicant is below standard; whether or not the applicant's 14 need for housing has arisen by reason of displacement of the 15 applicant by governmental actions; the proximity between the 16 housing location and the applicant's place of employment;

whether the applicant is a state or county employee; whether the



17

1

# S.B. NO. 72

1	applicant is a returning resident that left the State to attend
2	a university, college, or trade school and has graduated within
3	the past two years; and other factors as it may deem pertinent.
4	The corporation may allow households with incomes up to twenty
5	per cent greater than the income on which the maximum sales
6	price was based to be qualified to purchase a unit.
7	(b) For any project developed or administered by the
8	corporation under this chapter, the corporation shall, when
9	feasible, set aside as a matter of preference no fewer
10	than per cent of the available units for state or county
11	employees.
12	(c) The corporation shall:
13	(1) Determine the order of preferences as outlined in this
14	section and rank all applicants accordingly;
15	(2) Select applicants based on application date within the
16	pool of similarly ranked applicants; and
17	(3) Validate the preference status of an applicant before
18	occupancy of an affordable unit.
19	(d) The corporation may establish additional eligibility
20	criteria in administrative rules adopted pursuant to

21 <u>chapter 91.</u>"



Page 2

## S.B. NO. 72

SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed 1 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored. 2

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval. 3

INTRODUCED BY: BCSC

4



### S.B. NO. 72

#### Report Title:

HHFDC; Housing Development Programs; Criteria; Preferences; Ranking; Housing Location Proximity; State and County Employees; Returning Resident Graduates; Reserved Units; Rules

#### Description:

Requires the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC) to consider as a preference under chapter 201H, HRS, the proximity between the housing location and the applicant's place of employment; whether the applicant is a state or county employee; and whether the applicant is a returning resident that left the State to attend a university, college, or trade school and has graduated within the past two years. Requires, for any project developed or administered by the HHFDC under chapter 201, HRS, the HHFDC to set aside as a matter of preference an undetermined per cent of available units for state or county employees, when feasible. Requires HHFDC to determine the order of preferences and rank applicants accordingly, select applicants based on application date within the pool of similarly ranked applicants, and validate the preference status of applicants before occupancy of a unit. Authorizes HHFDC to adopt rules to establish additional eligibility criteria.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

