
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SUPPORT LEGISLATION
SUPPORTING INCENTIVES FOR PUBLIC HOUSING TENANTS TO
TRANSITION INTO PERMANENT HOUSING.

1 WHEREAS, public housing is an affordable option for
2 households with low income who cannot afford market rental
3 housing prices; and
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5 WHEREAS, public housing should be a transitional option,
6 rather than a permanent one; and
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8 WHEREAS, the waitlist for a public housing unit in Hawaii
9 consists of several thousand people, and it can take several
10 years to reach the top of the list; and
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12 WHEREAS, while state public housing tenants undergo
13 periodic income checks to determine if they remain eligible for
14 public housing, federal housing tenants can continue to remain
15 in the public housing unit even if their income rises above the
16 eligibility level; and
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18 WHEREAS, for some tenants, living in public housing has
19 become a permanent way of life, in part because there are few
20 incentives to find permanent housing; and
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22 WHEREAS, a number of incentives could be implemented to
23 encourage tenants to seek permanent or market rental housing,
24 including savings programs where a portion of the tenant's rent
25 is placed into an account for future use toward a home or market
26 rental; and
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28 WHEREAS, additionally, the cap on the maximum rent amount
29 could be increased, thereby requiring tenants with higher
30 incomes to pay more in rent, particularly when rent is based on
31 a percentage of the household income; and



1 WHEREAS, rules relating to federal rental housing units
2 need to be changed to require tenants who exceed income limits
3 to find market rental or permanent housing, thereby allowing
4 someone in need of low-rent housing an opportunity to obtain a
5 unit; now, therefore,
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7 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
8 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
9 Session of 2008, that this body urges Hawaii's Congressional
10 Delegation to support legislation supporting incentives for
11 public housing tenants to transition into permanent housing; and
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Hawaii's Congressional
14 Delegation is also urged to support changes to federal rules to
15 require tenants exceeding income limits for federal public
16 housing units to find market rental or permanent housing; and
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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
19 Resolution be transmitted to Hawaii's Congressional Delegation,
20 the Secretary of the United States Department of Housing and
21 Urban Development, and Director of the Hawaii Public Housing
22 Authority.

