# SB187



#### STATE OF HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM
HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
677 QUEEN STREET, SUITE 300
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

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IN REPLY REFER TO

# Statement of Karen Seddon Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation

Before the

### SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND HOUSING

February 4, 2009 1:15 p.m. Room 225, State Capitol

In consideration of

S.B. 187

## AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS AND MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING.

The Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC) appreciates the intent of S.B. 187; however, given the current fiscal difficulties, it would not be prudent to pursue enactment at this time.

We would like to point out that the Executive Biennium Budget includes a request for infusion of \$50 million into the Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund (\$25 million in each biennium year). The Dwelling Unit Revolving Fund may be used for the development of infrastructure for affordable housing projects.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

## Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr. Mayor

Gary K. Heu Administrative Assistant



Eugene K. Jimenez Housing Director

Kenneth N. Rainforth Executive Assistant

February 3, 2009

Senator Norman Sakamoto, Chair Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair and Committee Members Committee on Education and Housing The Senate, State of Hawai'i The Twenty-Fifth Legislature Regular Session of 2009

SUBJECT: Testimony Supporting Senate Bill 187, Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds and Making an Appropriation for

Affordable Housing

Committee: EDH

Hearing: February 4, 2009 1:15 PM Conference Room 225

The Kaua'i County Housing Agency (KCHA) strongly supports Senate Bill 187. The bill would allow the state to issue general obligation bonds for the purpose of developing infrastructure for affordable housing. One of the greatest obstacles to the development of affordable housing is the financing of required infrastructure.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

EUGENE K. JIMENEZ

Housing Director





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**Director** – Kirk Caldwell, City and County of Honolulu

**Director** – Kamaile Sombelon, Lokahi Pacific February 4, 2009

The Honorable Norman Sakamoto, Chair House Committee on Education and Housing Hawaii State Capitol, Room 230 Honolulu, HI 96813

**Dear Chair Sakamoto and Members:** 

## RE: SB 187, AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS AND MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING

I am Nani Medeiros, Executive Director of Housing Hawaii, testifying in support of Senate Bill 187, which authorizes and appropriates an unspecified sum in general obligation bonds for the development of infrastructure related to affordable housing.

We appreciate the inclusion of affordable housing in any substantial capital improvement campaign that the legislature is considering as a mechanism to spur Hawaii's economic growth. To that extent, we strongly support this bill and recommend the Hawaii Housing and Finance Development Corporation be the expending agency.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Nani Medeiros Executive Director

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